Ciceronis Amor.

TVLLIES LOVE:

Wherein is discourſed, the prime *of* CICEROES *youth, ſetting out* in liuely Portraitures, how yong Gentlemen, that ayme at Honour, ſhould leuell the end of their affections, holding the loue of Countrey and friends in more eſteeme, then thoſe fading bloſſomes of beautie, that onely feede the curious ſuruey of the eye.

A worke full of pleaſure, as following CICEROES vaine, who was as conceited in his youth, as Graue in his Age, profitable, as containing precepts worthy ſo famous an Oratour.

ROBERT GREENE. *In artibus Magiſter.*

Omne tulit punctum qui miſcuit vtile dulci.

LONDON
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John Hor

The Tripos right

Right honourable

Right

magnum with Setur

Sapientis ossas by the

Oxford allotted to

all

The Tripos right honourable

magnum with Setur

Sapientis ossas by the

Oxford

The Tripos

TO THE RIGHT Honourable, FERDINANDO STANLEY, *Lord Strange, ennobled* with all Titles that Honour may afford, or Vertue challenge, *Robert Greene* wisheth increase of vertuous and Lordly resolutions.

THE *Tripos* (right Honourable) ingrauen with *detur sapienti*, was by the Oracle allotted to *Socrates*, *Achilles* shield maintained with the sword, fel to *Vlisses* for his wisedome; *Pallas* had her Libratie, and her Launce: and such as read *Non vltra* on *Hercules* Pillers, pointed out the Caracters with their Speares. Proportion the mother of Geometry, and Mistris of Arts, commaunds that *Hector* haue his honors, *Alcides* his glories, and that *Olympus* bee neuer without bright glittering armour, nor Greene wreathed Garlands, as well to grace the souldier, as to glory the Poet.

This considered (right Honorable) hauing done my endeuour to penne downe the loues of *Cicero*, which *Plutarch*, and *Cornelius Nepos* forgot in their writings: I presumed to present vnto your Honor, not high written Poems, as *Maro* did to *Augustus*,

but the fruites of well intended thoughts, as *Callymachus* scholler did to *Alexander*, thinking nothing rare or veiwe worthy, sufficiently patronaged, vnlesse shrowded vnder the protection of so honourable a Mecenas. Whatsoeuer was pleaded in *Rostris*, was not penned by *Hortensius*, and yet the Senators heard and gaue plausible censures. *Homer* spent verses, as well on *Irus* the begger, as *Eurymachus* the wooer. Euery sentence cannot *Cleanthis lucernam olere*, and yet men will read Poems, and praise them. Then (right Honorable) if my worke, treating of *Cicero*, seeme not fit for *Cicero*, as eclipsing the beauteous shew of his eloquence, with a harsh and vnpolished stile, yet I craue that your Honour will vouch of it, only for that it is written of *Cicero*. *Ennius* laboured as hard in his rough Poesies, as *Virgil* in his high Poems. *Phidias* pensil (in his owne conceit) was as sharpe pointed, as *Pigmaleons* chasing tooles: meane wits, in their follies, haue equall paines with learned Clarkes in their fancies. *Apollo* yeelded Oracles, aswell to poore men for their praiers, as to Princes for their presents. Starres haue their lights, and haires their shadowes. Meane Schollers haue high thoughts, though lowe fortunes. Thus perswaded and emboldened (right Honourable) I present this Pamphlet of *Ciceroes* loues to your Lordship, resolued vpon your courteous acceptance, that weighing the mind, not the matter, your Honour will say, if not *Bucephalus*, yet a horse. And in this hope resting, I wish to your Lordship, as much health and happinesse, as your Honour can desire, or I imagine.

Your Lordships humble deuoted

ROBERT GREENE.

To the gentle Readers health.

Gentlemen, I haue written of Tullies Loue, *a worke attempted to winne your fauours, but to discouer mine owne ignorance, in that, coueting to counterfeit* Tullies *phrase, I haue loſt my ſelfe in vnproper words: but hoping (as euer I haue done) of your courteſies, I haue, like bold Bayard, put my head out of the ſtable. If my method bee worſe then it was wont to bee, thinke that skill in Muſicke mard all: For the cleiue was ſo diſſonant from my note, that wee could not clap a concord together by fiue markes.* Chiron *the Sagitarie was but a fained conceipt, and men that beare great ſhapes, and large ſhadowes, and haue no good, nor honeſt mindes, are like the portraiture of* Hercules, *drawne vpon the ſands. If I ſpeake miſtically, thinke tis muſically, and ſo deſiring that you will take* Tullies Loue, *as penned for your pleaſure, I bid you farewell.*

Robert Greene.

Ad Lectorem Hexasticon.

IN lucem prodit tenebris exuta malignis
Romulei petulans, vaesanaq; flammula Phœbi:
Rorantem Authori (Lectores) spargite florem,
Intyba, Narcissos, Latacen, pictiq; roseti
Dulces diuitias: Illum concingite lauru:
Emerito solers industria reddat honorem.

Tho. Watson. Oxon.

Ad Lectorem de Ciceronis amore, Hexasticon.

MIraris fortasse legens Ciceronis amorem?
Desine mirari, qui bene scribit, amat.
Crimen inesse putas? semel insaniuimus omnes,
Quæ faciunt iuuenes, condoluere senes.
Linguam qui laudat Ciceronis, laudet amorem,
Greni solus honor, sit Ciceronis amor.

G. B. Cantabrigiensis.

VArro and *Tucca* wrote of *Maroes* verſe,
And *Dares* darde to tell of *Homers* skill,
Of *Ouids* workes Latins haue made rehearſe,
And Poets haue diſcourſt of *Pinders* quill,
Many haue writt Coſmographie of lands,
And told of *Gihon* and of *Tagus* ſands:
Of *Helens* beautie, and of *Ledaes* hew,
The winged fancies of the lernd haue told:
But of the proudeſt Poets old or new,
Who dard ſweet *Tullies* fancies once vnfold?
As farre too high for all that yet haue beene,
Then giue the palme and glory vnto *Greene*.

Thomas Burneby Eſquire.

NOw bloomes & bloſſoms of faire *Adons* flower,
Cupid is ſtolne from *Pathos* ſecret ſhrine,
Diana lurkes, ſhe and her Nymphs doe lower,
Bacchus that tempers ſacred Loue with wine,
Ceres, and al the Gods haue made agree,
That Loue is God, and there is none but hee,
The Poems wanton *Ouid* ſet in verſe,
His Art of Loue that baniſht him from *Rome*,
Did neuer ſuch quaint Amorets rehearſe,
As are deſciphered vnder *Tullies* doome,
Whoſe Romane phraſe fetcht from *Parnaſſus* hill,
Saies, none but *Tully* in the depth of skill.

Edward Rainsford Eſquire.

Ano Wild Sohn

James

William

Mads. Nis Wild Sohn

TVLLIES LOVE.

THere dwelled in the citie of Rome, being metropolitane of ỹ world, famous aswell for martiall Champions, as delicate for beautifull Ladies, a Consul called Flaminius, made glorious by Fortune, as hauing twise rode in the triumphing chariot, and worne the Lawrell wreath, giuen as a Palme to such as haue been happie for many great victories. This Consul famous in the common wealth for his martiall exploits, Fortune whose conceite rests in extreames, either too prodigall in her fauours, or preiudiciall in her frownes, to make this man the miracle of her deitie, lent him one onely Daughter, of such excellent exquisite perfection, as Nature in her seemed to wonder at her owne workes. Her haire was like the shine of Apollo, when shaking his glorious tresses hee makes the world beauteous with his brightnesse. The Iuorie of her face ouer dasht with a vermilion die, seemed like the blush that leapt from Endimions cheekes, when Cynthia courts him on the Hills of Latmos. So did the proportion of her body answere to the perfection of her minde, and the honour of her thoughts so fitted to the glorie of her fauours, as it rested doubtfull whether her outward beauties, or inward vertues held the supremacie. Insomuch, that as men flocke to Delphos, to heare the Oracles of Apollo, so diuers resort to Rome to take view of the excellencie of Terentia: who once delighted with the sight of her grace, sit downe this as an Axiome, that Pallas the Patronesse of Troy for wisedome, or Venus the wonder of heauen for beautie, might not disgrace the dignities of this gorgeous Damosell. Rome swelling with

the pride of this matchlesse Virgine, whose thoughts were more humble then her face beautifull: and yet the Painters of that time feared to attempt her portraiture, as finding the perfection of nature to exceede the proportion of Art, made her the Mistresse of their vestals, as one that counted fancies as vnfit for a maide, as Alexander cowardize for a souldier. Cupid sitting on his Mothers knée by the fount of Alcydalion, séeing how Terentia, enemy to his amorous philosophy, set loue at so light estéeme, and for a charme against his magicall inchauntments, carried the euer burning fire of Vesta in her breast, clasping his mother wantonly about the necke he began thus to prattle. Séeing mother, wee haue left the places of our accustomed residence, to auoid the troupes of such sutors, as onely end their loues with their liues, and haue stolne to the secret fount here a while, to be solitarie, to weare away the time with some conceited chat, I pray you tell me whereof are womens hearts made: I aske the question mother, for that I finde the distinction of their fancies like the difference of their faces, which as they bee distinguisht in proportion, so they be altogether vnlike in properties. Venus hearing her sonne make such a waggish demaund began thus to reply. Some say, my boy, of the liuer of a Camelion, whose nature is to bee changeable in hues, and women as variable in their thoughts. Others of a pyrit stone, which handled softly, is as cold as ise, but pressed betweene the fingers, burneth like fire: they which infer this comparison, say that women broke not fauourable perswasions, nor may be wonne by intreaties, but the ready way to kindle them to Desire, is to crosse them with Disdaine. Some say their hearts are of Marble, which being hard, yet drops teares against euery stormе: Some of ware that is soft, admitting euery impression, those women haue their loues in their looks, which taken in with a gaze, is thrust out with a winke: some of Adamant, they be hard hearted, and yet men say, the Lapidaries haue tols to pierce them: others of gold, and they bee like Danae, that will admit no louer but such as Iupiter. To be briefe, my boy, so many fancies, so many fictions, euery one censuring of womens hearts, as

his

his owne experience hath found her froward or fauourable Cupid hearing his Mother discourse thus cunningly, demaunded amongst all these, whereof was Terentias heart of Rome formed. At this Venus fetching a deepe sigh. prosecuted her former premisses thus. Well wagge, for all you play the wanton, hast thou insight so far into thine enemies thoughts, that thou hast quoted in thy tables, the resolution of Terentia, whom men count more beautiful then my selfe, and more chast then Diana? Her heart, my boy, is framed of the purest Diamond, which, as it is hard to entertaine loue, so it is cleane, fit for the receit of Vertue: I tell thee Cupid, Terentia makes Desire her drudge, and Disdaine her champion: Shee honours all the Gods but thee, and admits all recreations but Loue: that she may finish her age with cõtent of patience. The prime of her yeeres are graue, that the fruits of her time may be gracious, and she striues to bee as full of honor in her life, as full of fauours in her lookes. To conclude, my boy, thee is Terentia, who seekes with labours to auoide loues, and indeuours to be called as vertuous, as other Ladies amorous. Thus Venus ended with a frowne, and Cupid began with a smile, she scorning at her honours, he studying on reuenge, after a little pause the cholerick boy burst forth into these tearmes: And shall Terentia offer perfumes to Vesta, and hemlock to Venus? shall shee (mother) straw Dianaes lawnes with Roses, and your pallaces with nettles: shall she set Desire in rags, and Disdaine in silkes: No, Cupid hath his boults fethered with ỹ wings of swallowes that flie swift, and his arrowes headed with strong tempered steele, that pierce deepe, like to Achilles launce, that did wound, and heale: my shafts (mother) are of sundry metals, the strongest of them will I aime at Terentia, and if my fortune faile mee not, I will change her songs to sighes, and her chast prayers to amorous passions. And with that, leaping from his mothers lappe, he bent his bow, shot an arrow, and hit Terentia on the heart, but it was of such proofe, as the boult rebounded, and brake into a thousand shiuers. At this Cupid scorned, seeing his deitie counterchecke with such constant chastitie: and Venus smiled, see-

ing her sonne in such a rage: which so increased his choller, that he discharged all his arrowes at random, carelesse of his aime, so he might any way reuenge. Amongst the rest young Lentulus a Romane Cauelier, vnder whose conduct the Consul sent many Legions to make warre against the Parthians, was one of those vnfortunate men that Cupid had bruised with his arrowes. For hauing fought a set battel, and bought the victorie with great losse, fresh supplies were sent him from Rome: Lentulus welcomming his newcome souldiers, demanded what newes: after they had made report of the state of the common wealth, they then, as a thing miraculous and supernaturall, discoursed to him the excellencie of Terentia, setting out her glories with such emphaticall discriptions, that Lentulus leaning his head on his hand, became a willing auditor to such pleasant Philosophy. Smiling thus in the ouer-sweete potions that Loue had tempered like Circes to bewitch the wary and warlike Vlisses, he caused his souldiers with often repetitions of Terentias beautie, to graft it in the sinews of his new entertained fancies. In the day his head was troubled with thoughts of Terentia: in the night conceit presented the visions of Terentia. Where before he laid plots how to circumuent the Parthians, now he deuised how to compasse his passions: loue wisht him to make light esteeme of war but growing to bee careless, he gaue his enemies occasion of incouragement. Beeing thus perplexed with vnacquainted fits, he beganne thus souldier-like to debate with himselfe. Haue not the ancient Romanes, whose statues and trophees haue filled the world with wonder of their chiualry, aimde the end of their honors to consist in armes: haue they not fetch fame from the heauens with their swords, and bound her to their fortunes with circumscriptions of blood? haue not their launces pierst oblivion to the heart, and their martiall deeds registred their names in the chronicles of memory? and yet Lentulus dost thou make light esteeme of war, whose very frownes are honour, and whose fauours immortall glories? Blush at thy thoughts that are so base. and weepe with Cæsar, that thou hast not done wonders with Alexander. Thou art elected

by

by the Consuls, as a choice man of Rome, as high prised for thy valour, as thy parentage, and yet thy mother was of the great Æmilij. Thou art sent against the Parthians, a nation warlike and resolute, either to challenge thy graue with thy sword, or carue out their tombs with thy Courtelare. Dareſt thou then Lentulus, amidſt thoſe glorious thoughts of a ſouldier, admit the leaſt paſſion of a Louer? ſhall thy policies, tow little for the Parthians, be imployed, in purchaſing Terentia? No Lentulus, draw thy fauchon, brandiſh it against Rome, and if Loue looke but ouer the walles, menace her with thy martiall weapons: and yet Lentulus, bee not ſo ſtoicall, as to reiect ſuch a mighty deitie. Haue not the Romans erected a temple nære vnto Campus Martius? Are not Knights dubbed, to defend Ladies? Make they not their Helmes proud with their Miſtris fauours? Mars hath his amours, as he hath his armours. Alexander gloried in his Loues, as he triumphed in his Victories. Great Pompey hath his Iulia, Cæſar his paramour, Souldiers haue loued, and ſo will I. Hauing thus diſcourſed with himſelfe, his hope of his loue, draue ſuch an inuincible courage into his minde that he paſſed not many dayes without giuing battell to the Parthians, in which, getting a glorious victory, he ſent great treaſure, and many captiues home to Rome, with great interceſſion to the Senate, that he might not winter from his owne Country. The Conſuls glad to fauour him with any reaſonable grant, ſent Lepidus to take his place, and recalled Lentulus home to the Citie. The fame of whoſe high intended thoughts, his conqueſt inlarged with infinite treaſures, and rich captiues, made Rome to Ring with Ecchoes of his matcheleſſe excellencie: inſomuch, that paſſing through the ſtrætes to the Capitoll, there to be inueſted with the honors due to his victories, multitudes of Romanes were placed on ſcaffolds, to take view of ſo braue and hardy a captaine, and the gorgeous windowes of the citie were ſtuffed with troops of beautifull Ladies, tickled with an earneſt deſire to ſatiſfie their ſights with his perſonage. Paſſing thus in pompe, Iulius Cæſar then being Dictator, after the ſollemne rites and magnificent triumphs were ended, bade him home to din-

uer, where hee feasted him with such royaltie as might beseeme the greatnesse of the day, and the highnesse of his owne thoughts. Thus flew the fame of Lentulus through Rome, as ỳ wonder of his time, but all those triumphant dignities could not extirpate the melancholy of this Romans thoughts inserted into his minde by the fond inchauntments of loue, but as the wounded Deere wringeth forth teares, and the Mirtle pierced, yeeldeth gumme, so Lentulus after his deepe impression of loue, could affoord nought but sighes and sorrowes. The Gemme of Terentias excellencie reflected in his minde like an obiect in a Crystall mirrour, that amiddest his most serious affaires, hee found the passions of Loue to bee intermedled. Fortune that had tyed her fauours in the top of his Creast, halfe perswaded to becom constant to this warlike Champion, seeing Cupid wrong him without cause, thought with a soueraigne antidote, to preuent the further ensuing prejudices of fancie. Forcing therefore Opportunitie to daunce attendance vpon this her darling, it fell out, that Flaminius the father of Terentia, seeing how Lentulus was generally feasted of all the Senators in Rome, thought, amongst the rest, to welcome home the warrior with a banket: and therfore meeting him at one Titus Annius Miloes house, hee solemnly inuited him home to dinner. Lentulus, as full of curtesie as courage, after great thankes, promised to be his guest. Whereupon Flaminius passing home, made prouision: and Lentulus stealing to his lodging, beeing solitarie, conceiued such inward ioy at this sweet opportunitie, that leaning vpon his left hand, smiling to himselfe, hee breathed out these words: Such, I see well as Mars honors with fauors, Venus will not crosse with frowns: those that conquer in Warres, shall not perish in Loues. Cupid fauors his fathers followers, and such as Fortune smiles on in battel, she laughs on in fancies: I coueted to beare charge against the Parthians, and the Senate elected me Lord of their Legions: Desire wisht me to haue a sight of Terentia, and her father entertaines me for a guest. I made conquest of mine enemies with the sword, and why may I not winne Loue with my loyalty: Feare not Lentulus, these concluded compari-

sons

sons are prodigious, be Augure then to thy selfe, and calculate thy good fortunes by thy thoughts: Loues and Warres craue courage. Feare not man, for thy intreaties are as mighty, as her denials can be contrarie. As thus he was debating within himselfe, the clocke tolde him it was time to go to visite his Host, so that he made himselfe as sumptuous as might be, and at the parting from his chamber dooze, hee said thus: If Venus (quoth he) thou fauour me in my loues, I will become thy vowed seruant in my life: I will strew thy Alters with Roses, and set thee vp shrines at Paphos, I will bind vp my temples with Mirtle bowes, and for the martiall garland weare a wreath of flowers, I will haue doues nestes in my pallaces, and what belongs to thee, shal be some of my delight, onely grace me with the fauour of Terentia. Ending this his vow, hee passed forward with his traine towardes the house of Flaminius, where beeing arriued, the graue Senators entertained him with such magnificence, as Lentulus perceiued his welcom by his honors. The bord couered, and the company ready to sit, Lentulus was placed chiefe at the Table, who all this while, hauing not sight of Terentia, sate as a man nypped on the head, although there were at the table, to grace the feast, many braue and beautifull damsels. Sitting thus in a dumpe, he was cheered vp by all the company: but at last, to set him in his follity, Terentia was commaunded by her father, to bring him in a cup of Grekish wine. She that little cared to be seene in open banquets, as holding it contrarie to the rites of Vesta, durst not yet, but with all diligence, signifie her obedience. Therefore attired in a rich robe of white, spotted with starres of golde, tempering the porphyry of her face with a vermilion blush, loking like Diana when she basht at Acteons presence, shee came into the Hall, where humbly saluting al the company she deliuered the wine to her father. Lentulus seeing fame had but blemisht her fauors, in being too partial of her praises, sat so amased at the beautecus excellencie of Terentia, as did the Centaur enamored of Iuno. His eie made survey of her beauties, who posting the sence to y contẽplation of his thoughts, so set on fire his heart with her perfections, as his stomacke

shut vp her office, to giue his eyes leaue to wonder at the curious conceit of natures cunning: his lookes began to sparkle loue, as did those of Adon, when hee pyed vpon the face of his paramor: the change of his colour bewraied his new entertained passions: which noted by Terentia, halfe angry at loues folly, shee discouered her colour with such a blush, as Lentulus, letting fall his knife vpon his trencher, said aloud, Non fortuna, non Bellúm, meaning that neither the highest state of Fortune, nor the fatal euent of warre, could conquer that heart that her beautie hath made subiect. Terentia at this vnexpected exclamation abashed, and the rest of the company maruailed: but Flaminius willing to moue some table talke, demanded of Lentulus what he meant by this sudaine embleme. Lentulus willing to make slight at the soule, and yet not to haue a bell at his héele, answered thus. Whilst I lay in legar, intrenching the Parthians more hardie with legions of men, then with déepe raised countermures, my souldiers discouered a Castle, which once wonne, displacing the strength of the Country, séeing the Romans had made me vicegerent of their forces, although the place séemed impregnable, béeing as well defended by nature, situate vpon a mount, as by prouesse stored with men and munition, yet prising honor more déere then bloud, and Countries profite beyond the content of life, I bent certaine legions against the Castle, and following the opinion of Quintus Fabius Maximus, sought by delay to driue them to composition. For it was said of him,

Vnus homo nobis cunctando restituit rem,
Non ponebat enim rumores ante salutem.
Ergo postq; magisq; viri nunc gloria claret.

Séeking so to get conquest by famine, which would haue béene preiudiciall with the sword, at last, séeing their forces greatly weakened, I gaue assault, and entred, putting the souldiers to the sword, yet willing to saue the Lord of the castle, for that his valour discouered his thoughts, searching him out, I found him in his bed-chamber, his wife slaine, and

and the blade yet varnished with blould grasped in his fist, staring me in the face with a gastly looke, that stood amazed at the stratageme, hée spake thus. Romane, report in the Senate house, that where you excell vs in policie, we exceed you in resolution: this Lady which thou seest here weltring in her gooze, ismy wife, and for the brookes not [illegible] fancies, shée craued to end her loue with her life: I married her a virgine and honorable, shée dies a wife and honest, as famous in Parthia for her vertues, as your Romane Dames for their bravaries. Wee lived without iarres, for that the desire of the one was the content of the other, constancy banished iealousie, and true loue held suspition at the launces point. Our fortunes (Romane) thou hast pulde downe with thy prowesse, warre hath made wracke of our safeties, but for our loues, this sworde shall linke them together by death, so that Non fortuna non bellum. And with that the resolute Souldier stabbed himselfe. Astonied at this peremptory massacre, although all stained with the blould of the Parthians: yet I could not but grieue at the passion of the man, and enter into consideration what that loue should be, that wrought in mens minds such resolute effects: so well liking of his determinate death, that I vowed in my thought, if euer I obtained the fauour of some gracious Damosell to write blould with the Parthian, *Non fortuna non bellum.* The remembrance (honorable Senators) of this tragedy made me to shew my selfe so passionate. Lentulus hauing ended his discourse, the Senatours generally praised the resolution of the Parthian, and the Ladies the constancy of his wife, all concluding, that no impression could be so deepely inserted into the heart, as loue. Terentia, spying the flame by the smoke, smiled to see how couertly Lentulus had cloaked his thoughts, and how, in vowing to bee constant, hee discouered his conceit, so that turning her backe she went into her Closet, and there blamed Venus, that had wrapt so braue a Champion in her subtilties: not feeling, either the personage, or perfections of Lentulus, to stirre the staied continencie of her mind. Well, the Senatours not willing to let this fall to the ground, talking still of the Parthian,

and amongst the rest of those honourable guests that were there feasted, Archias the Poet, a man of a pleasant disposition, toke the tale by the end, and beganne to prosecute it thus.

Graue Senators, I remember I haue heard Hortensius the great Orator say, that in times past, the Consuls for recreation, would vse light and honest pastimes, especially myrth at meate, as the fittest minister for digestion, alleadging Scipio and Gracchus, who coueted to be as iocund at their banquets, as they were serious in matters of estate, Seeing then (Reuerent fathers) Lentulus hath entred into the discourse of Loue producing the Parthian, who amongst his other singularities, boasted, that his Lancie had neuer beene strained with iealousie, a plague that is greatly now a dayes predominant in Rome, might it please you to fauour vs with your gracious consent, we would intreate Lentulus to discourse to vs, his opinion of iealousie. The Senatours granted, and Terentia being come to giue attendance on her father, smiled. Lentulus casting his eyes vpon his loue, seeing a dimple in her cheeke, which was to him *Cos amoris*, made Archias this present answere.

Had the Thebans appointed Zetus to haue discoursed on Musicke, or they of Thessaly Menalcas, to haue described the Court: The principles of the one had beene as voide of Art, as the precepts of the other farre from Honour: The one being an enemy to Musicke, the other, a swaine, and a shepheard. So (Reuerend Senators, and honourable Ladies of Rome) Archias, how skilfull soeuer in Poetry, yet hath failed in his policie, to request him to discourse of iealousie, that neuer as yet offered incense at the Altars of Loue. If it had been, to make discription of a battel to haue discoursed the order of the phalanx, or any point of Martiall discipline, then could I, as a Souldier, haue dilated such principles, as warlike Captaines, register in the field with their sword. But of Loue, whose amorous deitie agreeth not with drumme and trumpet: or of Iealousie, as the shadowe of Fancie, it fitteth me as little to discourse, as the shomaker of Appelles portraiture. But if euer Venus shal vouch mée that fauour,

to

to grace me with a speciall loke from my Mistris excellencie, and that mine eye be allowed, as Paris was, to iudge of beauties. Archias shall commaund mee as a friend in the meane time; for Poets and Painters ought to haue their conceits feathered with Mercuries plumes: I wil desire Archias to supply my ignorance, and to describe the effectes of Iealousie. The Senators, and the rest of the company, hearing how cunningly Lentulus retorted the argument vpon Archias, with a resolute consent, they inioyned Archias to play the Orator, who being pleasantly disposed, began thus.

The wolues in Syria that barke against the Moone, suffer small rest, and great hunger. Arrowes shot against the stars, pierce downward: and the Syrens that sought to intrap Vlysses, perisht themselues: so Gentlemen, I sought to make experience of Lentulus eloquence, and Fortune hath alotted me to discouer mine owne ignorance, but least I might bee counted, eyther too stoicall, or too too full of selfe conceit: for Iealousie thus.

Archias discourse of Iealousie.

SUch as haue searched into the deepest Aphorismes of Anacreon, or pried into the principles that Ouid set down in his Volumes, finde Loue to bee such a pure passion of the mind, as like the Crystall, it admitteth no bruise, without a cracke: it groweth from the vnion of two minds, conceiued by the speciall liking of some excellent good, consisting in exterior beautie, or interior vertues, or the combining of them both in one soule, and singular perfection. This choice of excelliencie confirmed by election once imprinted in the heart is so precious as the pearles of Cleopatra. The fleece of Colchos, the sands of Tagus are trash, if brought into compare with this diuine and metaphisicall passion: man hauing swilled in this nectar of Loue, is so charie, that hee not onely brooketh no corriuall of his thoughts, but admitteth no partaker of his fauours, and from this feare proceedeth that furie which men call Iealousie, being secret suspition, that others should enioy that excellencie, that he hath chosen sole

and singular to himselfe. This (noble Romans) is that fiend that Pluto sent to checke Cupid in his dettie: this springing from hel, bringeth worse torments to the mind then the stone of Sysiphus, vulture of Titius, or wheele of Ixion. This is the canker that fretteth the quiet of ỳ thoughts, the moth that secretly consumeth the life of man, and the poyson specially opposed against the perfection of loue: after the heart be once infected with iealousie, the sleeps are broken: the dreams, disquiet slumbers: the thoughts, cares and sorrowes: the life, woe and miserie: that liuing, he dies: and dying, prolongs out his life in passions worse then death. None looketh on his loue but suspition sayes, this is he that couets to be corriuall of my fauours: None knockes at his doore, but starting vp, he thinks them messengers of fancy, none talkes but they whisper of affection: if shee frowne, shee hates him, and loues others, if she smile, it is because she hath had successe in her loues, looke she frowardly on any man, she dissembles, if she fauours him with a gracious eye, then as a man straught with frensie, he cryeth out, that neither fire in the straw, nor loue in womens lookes can be concealed, thus doth hee liue restles, and maketh loue, that of it selfe is sweet, to be in taste as bitter as gall.

This discouers (reuerent Senators) that loue being of it selfe, a most excellent passion, is onely blemisht by this foule and disgraced staine of iealousie, as hatefull and hurtefull to the mind, as a Cockatrice to the eye, or hemlock to the taste. The purest chrisolite hath his strakes, the flowers in Sydon, as they are precious to the sight, so they are pestilent in sauour: Loue as it is diuine with loyaltie, so it is hellish with iealousie, wherefore by an auncient Poet were written these verses.

When Gods had fram'd the sweete of womens face,
And lockt mens lookes within their golden haire:
That Phœbus blusht to see their matchles grace,
And heauenly gods on earth did make repaire
To quippe faire *Venus* ouerweening pride,
Loues happie thoughts to iealousie were tide,

Then

Then grew a wrinkle on faire *Venus* browe,
The amber sweet of loue is turn'd to gall:
Gloomie was heauen: bright Phœbus did a vowe
He could be coy and would not loue at all:
Swearing, no greater mischiefe could be wrought,
Then loue vnited to a iealous thought.

Had not Iuno béen iealous ouer Iupiter, Io had not béene turned into a Heifer: Iustiption had not prickt Menelaus, Helena had not stolne away with Paris. Procris had béene aliue, had she not suspected Cephalus: Then worthy Romanes we see what a pretudiciall monster groweth from the fearefull excesse of loue, that not onely shortneth the life, disquieteth the mind, but oft is the cause of most strange and vnnaturall massacres. If fortune frowne in loue, we flie to patience: If there happen iarres, why louers brawles are introductions to delight. If pouertie, why they hope vpon time, thinking that there is *Vicissitudo omnium rerum*, the lowest ebbe may haue his flow, and the deadest neape his full tide: if griefs, sorrowes, repulses, vnkindnes, these bee but *Amantium iræ*: And therefore *Amoris redintegratio*: but as the pumice stone frées the paper from spots, and the fire consumeth flax: so this infernall plague of iealousie roteth and raceth all true loue from the heart, that yéelding my censure, I conclude with this Poeme.

Vita quæ tandem magis est iucunda,
Vel viris doctis magis expetenda,
Mente quam pura sociam iugalem
Semper amare?

Vita quæ tandem magis est dolenda,
Vel magis cunctis fugienda quam quæ,
(Falso suspecta probitate amicæ)
Tollit amorem?

Nulla eam tollit medicina peſtem,
Murmura, emplaſtrum vel imago ſagæ,
Aſtra nec curant, magicæ nec artes,
Zelotipiam.

Archias hauing thus ended his diſcourſe, the Senatours greatly praiſed his diſcription of Iealouſie, and from that fell to other pleaſant talke as occaſion offred. Till dinner being done, they aroſe, & after many thanks & curtiſies, according to the cuſtom of the Romans, Flaminius to honor Lentulus the more, taking him by the hand carried him into a garden, where Terentia ſate accompanied with other Virgins of Rome: Namely, Flauia, Cornelia, & Iula, all of ſuch exquiſite features, as they ſeemed to be the choyce Paragons of that time. Lentulus amazed at this gorgeous ſight, wondred not onely at their beauties, but maruelled why Flaminius brought him ſo friendly into their preſence. At laſt, the old man burſt forth into theſe words: Lord Lentulus, I meaſure the thoughts of yong Gentlemen, by the prime of my forepaſſed youth, not being ſo cynicall as with Chremes in Terence, to proportion yong affections, by the cynders of old age, but to thinke with Menedemus, that the ſpring hath flowers and bloſſomes, whereas Winter hath dried branches, and tawnie leaues, Wee old men, ouer whome Saturnus is predominant hauing infuſed Melancholie in our mindes, couet, either to ſit ſolitarie, or that our talke bee ſerious: you that are yong, whoſe thoughts aime at delights, ſeeke to paſſe the time in pleaſant diſcourſes. Leaſt therefore the time might bee tedious, I haue brought you amongſt theſe faire Ladies, that you may make experience of loues, as you haue done of warres: Mars no ſooner puts of his helmet, but he ſalutes Venus: and you come from conqueſt of the Parthians; ſee how you can enter combat with paſſions: and ſo Lord Lentulus I leaue you.

Lentulus ſeeing himſelfe thus inuironed with theſe miracles of beautie, caſting his eyes vpon the goddeſſe, whoſe fauourable aſpect might be the ſumme of his fortunes, bluſhed at the firſt, as Paris did in the vale of Ida, and ſtood as the

foes

foes of Perseus when he vncased the head of Medusa, & turnd them to marble pictures, so amazed stood Lentulus at ỹ sight of such diuine excellencie, till the Ladies seeing this Nouice thus in a quandarie, began to smile, which reuiuing a kinde of amorous choller, in the Souldiers minde, hee began thus to play the Champion.

Ladies, beleeue me, Loue is of more force then warres, and the lookes of women, pierce deeper then stroke of launces, there is no Curtlear so keene, but armor of high proofe can withstand, but beauties arrowes are so sharpe, and the darts that flie from womens eyes, so piercing, as the Coslet tempered by Vulcan, for Didoes paramour, holdes not out the violence of their stroake. The gods tremble when Mars shaketh his Launce, but he feareth when Venus casteth a frowne. Alexander neuer tooke notice of the legions of his enemies, but hée stood frighted at the beauty of the Amazon. Then sweet saints of Rome, maruell not if I were driuen into a maze at the sight of such beautious creatures, whose faces are Venus weapons, wherwith she checketh the pride of ouer-daring warriours: I cannot (Ladies) court it as your Romane pongsters, that tye their wits to their fancies: nor fill your eares with amorous discourses, as Cupids Apprentices, that spend their time in such louing philosophy: Nor can I faine conceited supposes of affection, to proue my selfe loue sicke by Poetry. But as a blunt Souldier new come from the warres, I offer my selfe a deuout seruant to your beauties, swearing to defend your honours against all men with the hazard of my bloud, and in pawne thereof, generally to you all, but specially to one (as loue hath his vnitie) I desire to to be entertained as a dutifull seruant to the Lady Terentia. Lentulus hauing thus boldly bowded these louely Virgins, the Ladies séeing with what affection hee offered his seruice to Terentia, began to bite the lip, & she to blush, who séeing her selfe toucht to the quicke, made him this answere.

I know not (Lord Lentulus) how to answere of loue, because as yet I neuer knew loue: ignorant of his forces, because neuer acquainted with his fortunes. Vesta forbids vs

Virgins,

Virgins to name Venus, as they of Ephesus hatefull Erostratus. Diana deales not in Paphos, nor suffers shée any of her maidens to hunt on Erecynus, least méeting with Venus mecocks, they skip with Calisto, and so séeke after losse. The lesse you are priuate to loues passions, the more welcome to our presence: for rather had wee fill our eares with warres fortunes, then with loues follies: and sweeter are the teares that growe from a constant stratageme, then a smile from a comike tale of fancie. For your seruice (Lord Lentulus) finding my selfe vnworthy, I crane pardon: Nor can we by Vestaes charter admit such seruants. But if it please you to bee accepted as a worthy Romane, and my fathers friend, looke for such fauour as mine honour and virginitie can afford.

Lentulus hearing the plausible answere of Terentia, although her first insinuation séemed to answere for his purpose, as preferring the lawes of Diana, & fires of Vesta, before loues holy temples, yet shee concluded so sweetly as might stand with the modesty of her honour: hee therefore made thus his reply.

In that Madame we are both nouices in loue the simpler are our thoughts, and the nérer should be the simpathy of our affections. Doues match when they are yong. Syens are grafted when they are sprigs, the one part not but by death, nor are th'other seuered but they perish. Souldiers are like virgins, the one striuing to liue vertuous, the other to die valiant: both enemies to loue, while they waite on those which broke not loue, I meane warre and Vesta: But both must loue, as hauing hearts, and thoughts, eyes to sée beautie, and eares to iudge of virtue, I Madame while I thought none greater then Mars, was vowed to Mars, but seeing womens wits are worse then weapons, & that their lookes pierce deeper then lances, I haue resigned ouer my fortunes at the shrine of warre, & meane to make proofe of the sweetnesse of loue: Glad that in my first entrance I haue the patronage of your gratious fauor, armed with the which, Mars wel may frowne, but not conquer. But sir, quoth Terentia, I granted my fauour to Lentulus thy Souldier, not to

Lentulus

Lentulus the louer. And so Madame quoth hee, accept of it, for I am a souldier to doe you honour, and a louer despight of my selfe. Flauia, hearing Lentulus, began to reason prettily to the purpose, beeing a Lady of passing merrie disposition, whose witte was as full of wiles, as her face of fauour, second in the excellency of beauty to the Lady Terentia, thought to sift her souldier in this maner.

I see well Lord Lentulus, that as Women haue their fauours, so men haue their sayings: the one prodigall in graces, the other politike in deceits, beeing as cunning to dissemble loue, as wee charie to discharge loue. We Romane Ladies thought to haue found you a flat souldier as ignorant in loues, as wee of fancies: but how closely soeuer you couer the flame, the fire will bee knowne by the smoake: For your talke so sauours of Loues principles, as wee iudge you are as cunningin saying a passion, as in figuring a battell, and can as soone deceiue a woman with a pen, as slaughter an enemy with a launce. This will make vs to take you for a day friend, and what wee like in you present, to disallow to morrow, sweating if you bring amongst vs Venus roses, wee will beate you with Vestas nettles: and therefore if you will be admitted as our souldier, wee either forbid you the name of loue, or else you shall bee out of our fauours. Cornelia willing to breake a iest with the Champion, thwarted Flauia thus. And what of that Madame, hath not warre taught him patience: hee hath past sharper brunts then womens frownes. But now your leuell is without aime? If Madame Terentia smile, his peny is good siluer, tis her fauour that is the loadstar of his fortunes, and how can wee enter into her thoughts, but by coniectures: shee full of beautie, and hee a proper yong gentleman. At this frumpe the Ladies smiled, & Terentia blusht for anger. But Lentulus seeing such a broad iest pind on his shoulder, willing to make answere for his Mistresse, although hee was sore put to his trumps, as halfe set at a Non plus, yet hee followed his fortunes thus.

Indeede Ladies thinke I haue patience to beare womens frumps, that hath encountred an enemies blow, but if I

could as well answere the one, as quit the other, you should neither carrie it to hell, nor to heauen. But to reuenge my selfe as well as I can, thus. First Madame, to cleare my cunning in loue, I refer my selfe to the verdict of your owne conscience: who, were you but as fauourable as you are frowning, would scone censure by my talke, how deepe I am read in loues principles. But women speake by contraries, crying like the Lapwing farthest from their nests, and so I take it being checkt for ouermuch loue, when you see I am a nouice in loue. Or perhaps Madame Flauia, you would haue mee loue: if it bee so, I will become more studious to satisfie your will: but you calling me a day friend, that peremptorie punishment were passing sharpe, for one fault to shake mee out of seruice, were it not that for so deepe a wound the Lady Cornelia bringeth in a lenitiue plaister, alleadging my securitie if I bee armed with Terentias fauour. Blame mee not sweete goddesse, if I runne at the fairest, souldiers haue eyes that can iudge of beautie, though they haue not weapons to winne beautie, and eares to deeme of perfections, though they want tongues to discouer passions. The harmonie of loue, I haue heard them say, consistes in vnities, and nothing more preiudiciall to fancy then pluralitie, either of thoughts or of persons. Among many then am I charged but to like of one Mistresse: If I make choise of Terentia, and thee vouch to grace mee with her fauour, Cornelia concludes truely, that armed with the imagination of her beautie, I thinke my selfe able to bruse your trumps, and to withstand the hardy resolution of Mars.

I marualle then quoth Flauia, halfe in choller (if womens beautie be like Delphicus gladius, of high prowse to defend, and of sharpe edge to offend) why the Senators chose not out legions of Ladies, that with little cost and great assurance, they may make conquest of the world: but perhaps all souldiers bee not of your temper, for they vse their weapons, and you your iokes.

No Madame quoth Lentulus, that is not the cause, for were it not that euery woman would be a Captaine, and

strive

ſtriue for ſupremacie, they had reſolued vpon this long agee but fearing a mutinie amongſt themſelues for ſuperioritie ſith euery one at home will be counted moſt wiſe, and moſt beautifull, though their wits bee meane, and fauours leſſe, the Senate are glad to foreſee ſuch an inconuenience. The Ladies hearing how cunningly Lentulus had gald Madam Flauia on her right ſide, began al to ſmile, ſhe after a bluſh for very anger, began to laugh. Lentulus glad that hee had giuen her a ſop of the ſame ſawce, paid her her debt in her owne coine: Calling to his boy to fetch him a Lute, willing to ſhew his Miſtreſſe hee was not ignorant in Muſicke, ſaid hee would proue the force of beautie by a Sonnet which he heard was made by Orpheus when hee fell firſt into loue with Euridice: tuning therefore his Lute to his voice, hee ſung this ditty.

Mars in a furie gainſt loues brighteſt Queene
Put on his helme, and tooke him to his launce:
On Erecynus mount was Mauors ſeene,
And there his enſignes did the god aduaunce;
And by heauens greateſt gates he ſtowtly ſwore,
Venus ſhould die, for ſhe had wrongd him ſore.

Cupid heard this, and he began to crie,
And wiſht his mothers abſence for a while:
Peace foole quoth Venus, is it I muſt die?
Muſt it be Mars? with that ſhe coynd a ſmile:
She trimd her treſſes, and did curle her haire,
And made her face with beautie paſſing faire.

A Fanne of ſiluer feathers in her hand,
And in a coach of Ebony ſhe went:
She paſt the place where furious Mars did ſtand,
And out her lookes a louely ſmile ſhe ſent.
Then from her browes lept out ſo ſharpe a frowne,
That Mars for feare threw all his armour downe.

He vowd repentance for his rash misdeede,
Blaming his choller that had caus'd his woe:
Venus grew gracious, and with him agreed,
But charg'd him not to threaten beauty so:
For womens lookes are such inchaunting charmes
As can subdue the greatest god in armes.

Lentulus hauing sung this dittie, Terentia willing a little to shew her wit began thus. I remember Lord Lentulus I haue heard my father say, that souldiers were wont to carrie fauours in their helmes, not fancies in their heart: e made choise of their mistresse to incourage their thoughts, not to inchaunt their affections. But I see the auncient honour of the Romanes is slipt from prowesse to passions, and the men couet to bee counted rather amorous woers, then hardy warriours: gasing Mars in the face with bright Armour, but offering Oblations to Venus in secret conceites. This did not Quintus Lucius Cyncinnatus, who set it down as Crimen capitale to speake of loue in the Armie. Nor Scipio Affricanus the great, who made lawes that no women should be brought prisoners within the Campe, least loue entring pell mell with warre, might hazard the hautinesse of their honors. And yet Madame quoth Lentulus, Cyncinnatus had a wife, and Scipio was married. But quoth shee it was in their age rather chosen for succours, then amorous passions: their youth was wholy spent in warres as enemies to loues, counting fancy as a dishonour to their martiall dignities: rightly indeede with a deepe insight entring into the enormities that grew from following too precisely the court of Venus. For beleeue me (gentlemen) Poets and Painters erre much that ascribe a deity to Cupid, and were worthy to beare some greeuous punishment for such a new inuented heresie, which I shall approue with a Sonet, that one of Dianes nymphes made, when Iupiter had faulted with Calipso. And so Terentia taking the Lute in her hand began to warble this roundelay.

Fond

Fond fayning Poets makes of loue a god,
And leaue the Lawrell for the mirtle boughs:
When Cupid is a Child not past the rod,
And faire Diana Daphnis most allowes.
Ile weare the baies and call the wag a boy,
And thinke of loue but as a foolish toy.

Some giue him bowe and quiuer at his backe,
Some make him blind to aime without aduice:
When naked wretch such feathred bolts he lackes,
And sight he hath, but cannot wrong the wise.
For vse but labours, weapons for defence,
And Cupid like a coward flyeth thence.

He is God in Court, but cottage cals him childe,
And Vestaes virgins with their holy fires
Doe clense the thoughts that fancie hath defilde,
And burnes the pallace of his fond desires.
With chast disdaine they scorne the foolish god;
And proue him but a boy not past the rod.

Terentia hauing ended her roundelay, as Lentulus was ready to reply, Flaminius came into the Garden with the rest of the Senators, whose graue presence brake off their amorous prattle, so that hee leaning the Ladies taking his leaue friendly of them all, but especially with a pittifull glancing loke of Terentia, as crauing some fauour for his farewell, he went to the Senators, amongst whom he discoursed long of the manner and custome of the Parthians, of their resolution in warres, and of such serious matters concerning martiall discipline. Passing thus away part of the afternoone, the company at last taking their leaues, yelding great thanks to Flaminius for their good cheere, they parted to their seuerall mansions. Lentulus slipping from the rest of the company, and with a gratious courage toke his adue of Terentia, and the other of the Ladies, vowing to be theirs euer in any due honourable seruice, & so straining Terentia by the hand, he went home with Titus Annius Milo: where

he found Marcus Tullius Cicero, then a youth in Rome about the age of twentie yeares, and very priuate and familiar with Milo. The fame of this Tullies surpassing Eloquence was so bruted abroad in Rome, as they counted him the myrror of that time, and as in Greece they wondred at Demosthenes for his orations, and the popular people fedde their eies with his sight, so as Tully past through the streets they cryed out Hic est ille Cicero, saying, that as Orpheus with his Musicke made the stones and trees pliant to his melodie, so Tullie tyed the peoples eares to his tongue by his eloquence: And that Plato, who for his Philosophicall sentences was called diuine, in whose lips Bees rested, as presaging his future excellencie, was inferiour to Tullie in his musicall concord of his phrase. Lentulus noting his perfections, although his Parentage was base, yet thinking his eloquence might bee profitable to his loues, grew to be very familiar with Tullie, insomuch, that of vnacquainted Citizens, they grew to be deare and priuate friendes, that their thoughts were united with a sure league of amity, and their hearts were receptacles for their mutuall passions; so that their most secret affaires were frankly participated without any doubting suspition. But leauing their familiaritie, conuersing in Miloes house: Let vs Gentlemen see how Terentia brookt his departure. Cornelius Nepos forgets it in Tullies life, but if you will beleeue mee, it was thus.

No sooner were the Senatours and Lentulus departed from Flaminius house, but Flauia and the rest of the Ladies tooke leaue of Terentia, who being solitary by her selfe sitting alone in an arbour of roses, beganne to ruminate on the Idæa of Lentulus perfection, and to call to minde his seuerall and singular qualities, his Parentage, his person, honours, and his great possessions, but all in vaine. Loues poison was preuented with an antidote, and her thoughts sealed vp with an inuincible chastitie. For after she had long sate: At last with a smile she burst forth into these tearmes.

If Venus could not infuse more dismall aspects in other Ladies thoughts, then into my minde, they should neither hold her as a Goddesse, nor honour her temples with presents

sents: Fonde are those women that are inquisitiue after Astrologers, whether Venus bée retrograde, or combust in their natiuities. Had they but tasted the swéete sauours of Vestaes incense, they would abandon her as a planet careleſſe in their natiuities, & not trouble the Augures or Aruſpices, to censure of their fatall or fortunate fancies. For had they but insight into the swéete life of Virgins, how secure they liue, if they liue vertuous, they would neuer intangle themselues with the inconstant snares of fancie. Vesta allowes vs frée thoughts, Venus disquiet passions: at her Alters wée haue swéete slées, in the other pallace broken slumbers. Diana counteruailes our labours with myrth and quiet: in Cypres wée find toyle tempered with care and sorowes. Being virgins wée haue libertie, married wée tye our selues to the variable disposition of a husband, who bée he neuer so excellent in perfection, or exquisite in proportion, wée shall finde sufficient whereof to gather dislike. Then Terentia, let Lentulus passe with his honours, hath subdued. What though Alexander wonne the whole worlde: his glories are but fortunes fauours. Account him thine onely as thou promisedſt, thy fathers friend and thine as far as he treates not of wedding: and with this vpon a sodaine shée start vp, and went to passe away the time amongst companie, holding Cupids deity at disdaine, and accounting of loue, as the Samnites did of gold, which they sent as presents to their enemies, but banisht from their owne common wealth. But Flauia poore Lady, was not pierced with so easie a passion, for shée hauing more deepely imprinted in her thoughts, his honours and vertues, and measuring the man by the height of his fortunes, fell into these bitter complaints.

With what little proportion doth iniurious loue bestow his fauours? With how small regard doth blind Fortune powre out her treasures: Making in all their actions, contrarieties, that so they may triumph in inconstancie. Loue hath brought Lentulus from the warres to Rome, onely to sée Terentia, Fortune hath brought Flauia to the house of Flaminius only to loue Lentulus, the little regarding him, be lightly

rightly respecting me. Thus hath the contrariety of Loue and Fortune made Lentulus vnhappy, & me without hope. Ah but Terentia, though she seeme to coy, at the first, will be more curteous at the last, when she hath had but a moneths meditating on the excellency of Lentulus. Then oh, then sigh Flauia, and say, oh then will Terentia not reiect so honourable a personage, when shee considers his youth, his beautie, his parentage, his dignities. Lentulus no sooner shal woe, but she will be wonne. This is the coniecture of her happe, and the dispaire of my hope. And yet it may bee that the destinies haue appointed their disagrée. For starres are sticklers in loue, & fates are principall fauters of wedlocke. If my praiers may serue to Venus: if my incense to Cupid, if my vowes to Lucina: if my sute to loue, let their loue perish in the bud, and wither in the blossome. Had I Medeas magicke, the drugges of Calipso, the inchauntments of Circes, the skill of Hecate, all these should be imployed to breake the loue of Terentia and Lentulus. Fond Flauia, to be so franticke in thy passions: suppose Terentia hated Lentulus, can this conclude, he will loue thee? No, his thoughts are settled, his rest set downe, his vowes made, his fancy fixed, and all vpon that beautifull Terentia: I, there Flauia, that is the word that galleth, to the beautiful Terentia: For of such surpassing beauty is the Lady, that Cynthia brookes no compare with her glorious brother? so thou must not enter comparison with the daughter of the Senator Flaminius. But, what is this to Lentulus? If she be faire, yea as faire as euer was Sulpitia: if she be as coy, and disdainefull as Cælia, had he not better loue homely Flauia, who wil counteruaile with loue, what thee wants in beauty: & proportion out in duty, what she defects in dignity. But what of this, loue admits no exceptions, he cannot mislike ought in Terentia. Doth not present examples, yea instances executed in Rome auerre so much? Is not Anthonio enamoured of the blacke Egyptian Cleopatra? Doth not Cæsar enuy him in his loues, and couets to be cortuall of his fancies? Affection is oft blind and déemeth not rightly. The blackest Ebon is brighter then the whitest Iuory: and Venus thought Vulcan at the first a proper

a proper stripling. Were Terentia never so coy, Lentulus will count her disdaine but chastitie: yet Flauia pray then she may liue in this mislike, then hast thou yet some cause to hope, other wise weepe thy fill, dispaire, and then die, for sweeter is death, then to liue and see Lentulus enioy the loue of Terentia. Hauing at this period breathed a while, ready to goe forward in passions, one of her waiting women came in who breaking off her complaints past away the rest of the day in prattle. Leauing her therefore and her maide at that, againe to Lentulus, who toke such inwarde griefe at this new conceited loue, that his colour began to wax pale, and to discouer passions, his sighes many and often to bewray his sorrowes, his suddaine starts in his sleepes, and his musings surcharged with melancholie. These noted by Tully, his priuate friend, made him coniecture that somewhat was amisse with Lentulus. Hauing therefore fit opportunitie, hee began to sift him in this maner.

The ancient Gretians (sweete Lentulus) that set downe principles of friendshippe, account the secret conuersing of friendes, and their mutuall participating, either of priuate sorrowes, or concealed pleasures, the principall end of such professed amitie. Therefore did Theseus chose Perithous, Orestes Pylades & to that end, or else pon wrong me, serues Tully to his Lentulus. If then it be requisite in friendshippe to abandon suspitious secrecie, I cannot but take it vnkindly, that Tully is not made partaker of Lentulus passions. For as the Carbuncle is not hid in the darke, nor the fire shut vp in strawe, so sorrowes cannot so couertly be concealed, but the countenance will pourtray out the cause by the effects. Thinke me not then so blind, but I can iudge of colours, nor so simple, but I can deeme of affections: what meane these farre fetcht sighes, broken slumbers, this new delight, to bee solitarie, but that Lentulus feeling a passion that pierceth to the quick, yet seekes to keepe it secret from his friend Tully: know this my good Lentulus, that smoake depressed, stifleth more deadly: That the Ouen, the closer it is damd vp, the greater is the heate: and passions, the more priuate, the more preiudiciall. Stop not then the streame, least it ouer

sowe. Conceale not sorrowes, least they ouercharge, and prooue like woundes, that kept long from the Chirurgian, growe to be incureable vlcers: If it be a Fathers frowne, an enemies wrong, a friends mishap, reueale it, and seeke remedy. If Lentulus griefes haue left his honours in Parthia, feare not, Rome will haue more warrs, and Lentulus new dignities. If the Senatours haue dealt ingratfully: *Solamen miseris socios habuisse doloris.* The most famoos Romans haue sore-runne thée in such heard fortunes. Scipio subdued Affrica, what his reward was, let our annuals report. If Lentulus mislikes ought in Rome, let him abandon Rome, and Tully will banish himselfe from his countrey to go with his friend Lentulus. If since thy comming into this storehouse of natures prodigalitie, thine eye hath made suruay of any gorgeous Damsell, and so (my Lentulus) hée in loue, although wisedome willes to hide amors euen from amitie, and to tie fancie in the lowest Cell of the hart, yet reueale it to thy friend Tully, and if any way hee may ease his Lentulus passions, hée vowes to salue thy sore, though with the hazard of his owne safetie. Lentulus hearing his friende leuell so néere the marke, gaue a great grone at the name of loue: & fetching a déepe sigh said, *Ætna grauius Amor.* And with that, starting from the place where he sat, taking Tully by the hand, began thus.

Were it (my Tully) that my passions had any hope of remedie, or that my wound were such as might bee cured by counsell, long ere this had Lentulus powred his plaints into the bosome of his friend Cicero: but my sorrowes, as they are piercing, so I haue kept them priuate, as hoping for no ease, and yet delighting in my martyrdome. The bird flyeth the snare of the Fowler: No sooner doth the woodman bend his bow, but the déere trips through the lawnes: euery creature is taught by nature to feare his fall, & yet wretched Lentulus hunteth after his owne mishap. So haue I described the fury of my passions, as I cannot but say, it is loue that is thus impatient. Loue (my Tully) that is such a Lord, as insinuating his power with fauor, he kéepes possession by force, Wars haue their ends, either honors or death

and

and in battaile, prowesse oft makes constraint of Fortune: but in loue, Delay is the vnhappy deathsman, that holding thée vp, neither saues nor kils. Since my comming to Rome (my Tully) coueting to conuerse with beatifull Ladies as before I had done with martiall souldiers, amongst manie curious Pearles, I found one orient Margaret richer then those which Cæsar brought from the westerne shores of Europe: so long I gazed at the beautie of this precious Iem, that I found my selfe glad with such affection, as well repeate I might, but recall I could not: and for thou shalt say thée is loue worthy, heare how in discribing her excellencie I haue plaid the Poet.

Lentulus discription of Terentia in Latin.

Qualis in aurora splendescit lumine Titan,
Talis in eximio corpore forma fuit:
Lumina seu spectes radiantia, siue capillos,
Lux Ariadne tua & lux tua Phœbe iacet.
Venustate fuit verbis, spirabat odorem,
Musica vox, nardus spiritus almus erat:
Rubea labra, genæ rubræ, faciesque decora,
In qua concertant lilius atque rosa,
Luxuriant gemina formoso in pectore mamme,
Circundant niuea candida colla come:
Denique talis erat diuina Terentia, quales
Quondam certantes, Iuno, Minerua, venus.

Thus in English.

BRightsome Apollo in his richest pompe,
was not like to the tramels of her haire:
Her eyes like Ariadnes sparkling starres,
Shone from the Ebon Arches of her browes.
Her face was like the blushing of the East,
when Titan chargde the morning Sunne to rise:
Her cheekes rich strewd with roses and with white,
did staine the glory of Anchises loue.

Her siluer teates did ebbe and flow delight,
Her necke columnes of polisht Iuory.
Her breath was perfumes made of violets,
And all this heauen was but Terentia.

NO sooner had Lentulus ended his well written Poem, and concluded his cunning with the name of his Mistrisse, but Tully hearing Terentia was the Saint at whose shrine Lentulus offred vp his deuotion, entring his *Exordium* with a smile, he began to be thus pleasant

And is there no fruit will serue your taste but such as grow in the gardens of Hesperides, nor no color content your eie, but such as is stained by the fish Murex'. Must your senses be fed with nothing but that is excellent, nor your loue haue no meane but to aime at the fayrest? What Terentia? the beautie of Rome? the pride of nature? the wealth of all the fauouring graces, whose excellencies are spred through the triple deuision of the world? I see (my Lentulus) soldiers haue eyes, as they haue handes, and thoughts as they haue weapons, and that how bluntly soeuer brought vp in the wars, yet they are curious in the choises of their loues. Well, bee it, Lentulus loues Terentia, an honour to set his fancie on her, but he kept his loue secret from Tully, a fault to be suspicious of his friend. But why grieues Lentulus? Is not his parentage greater then the house of Flaminius? Is not his honours sufficient to counteruaile her beauties? Why then is he so impatient in so agreeable a passion? Lentulus vpon this discourse vnto Tully, from point to point, the successe of his loues, how he gaue his charge ouer to Lepidus, onely that he might haue a sight of Terentia, and then recounting what prattle had past betweene him and her after dinner, her coy answeres, and firme resolution to remaine chast, craued counsell how hee might ease the disquiet of his thoughts. Tully pitying the extreame passion of his friend deuised sundry meanes how to make him Lord of his desires. But after the discourse of sundry plots, it was decreed, that Lentulus should write to Terentia. Lentulus dispairing of his owne stile and methode required Tully to write him

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a letter passionate, and full of familiar eloquence, which at his request, Cicero contrived after this manner: Where by the way (gentlemen) I am to craue you to thinke, that Terentia kept the copie secret, so that neither it can be found amongst Lentulus lose papers, nor the familiar Epistles of Cicero. If the phrase differ from his other excellent forme of writing, imagine he sought to couer his stile, and in his pen rather to play the blunt souldier, then the curious Orator, neither vsing those *Verborum Fulmina*, that Papirius obiects nor that sweet and musicall cadence of words, which hee vseth to Atticus, but howsoeuer, or whatsoeuer, thus it was.

Lentulus Terentiæ salutem.

QVod natura in venustatis & formæ tuæ Idæa formauit (suauissima Terentia) nullo modo silentio prætermittere possum. Ne cui mirum sit cautus amoris ignem celare conarer, incautus tanquam Ætna meipsum consumens, in cineres redigar. Cum inter Parthos versarer, nihil nisi bellum & arma cogitans, a Roma vsque formæ tuæ puchritudo, morumque integritas à multis sæpe nunciata est. Cuius rei fama ea iucunditate aures permulsit, vt (Syrenum quasi cantu delectatus,) arma abiicere & amorem cogitare cœperim, meque totum in Terentiæ potestatem tradere non erubescerem. Diuina autem excellentiæ tuæ cogitatio, eos mihi pro tempore in bellicis negotiis addidit animos, vt breui deuictis & profligatis Parthis, totam hanc prouinciam Lepido commisserim, quem vnum tum honoris, tum fortunæ meæ participem feci, Parthisq; relictis Romam me cōtuli, vt iucundissimo fructu, tum aspectus, tum cōsuetudinis tuæ frui liceat. Formæ vero & pulchritudinis tuæ dignitas, tāta tamque excellens fuit, vt non modo famam, sed expectationem meam longè superarit. Vnde exquisitam tuam perfectionem oculis contemplans, & singulares animi dotes auribus accipiens, excellentiæ tuæ Idæam in imo pectore collocaui, meq; totum amori, quasi constringendū tradidi. Cum igitur tua vnius causa (suauissima Terentia) famam fortunasque & arma proiecerim, verum amantis officium fac præstes, & me non meritis, sed amore fac mettaris, vt iam ore tu mihi respondens, ego in omni officio tibi satis faciam. Taceo genus & parentes

rentes, quos tandē bonos ciues & Senatores fuisse constat, taceo triumphos, qui quales fuerint Capitolium populusque Romanus locupletissimi sunt testes, de diuitijs non glorior, quas tamen mediocres esse constat, set virtutis vim & amoris constantiam tibi propono, quæ nec parui facienda, nec ingratitudine compensanda sunt. Me igitur fac reddames (me a Terentia) & pulchritudini comitatem coniungens, parentibus gaudio, amicis vtilitati, & Lentulo voluptati esse possis. Non diserte, vt Orator, sed, peramanter, vt imperator tibi scribo, quod si amicis fidem, Lentulo amorem tribuas, vt parentibus gaudio amori nostro consentire digneris, de patris voluntate nihil est quod dubites: sed si alieno amore, non nostro delecteris, dolores meos & augebo, & celabo, & quamcunq; in partē te flexeris tibi tum vitam tranquillā, tum mortem gloriosam, vt fidelissimus amator exoptabo. Vale, plus oculis mihi dilecta Terētia, & me tui desiderio iam pene languentem, aut ames cito, aut oderis semper, vale, & rescribe.

Lentulus to Terentia, health.

I Cannot (sweet soueraign of my thoughts, and cheefemirror of our Romane excellencie) smother that with silence which nature hath figured in the portraiture of my lookes, vnlesse keeping the flame too secret, I should, like Ætna consume to cinders. When seated amongst the Parthians, hauing nothing in my thoughts, but warres and stratagems, thy beautie was repeated as speciall newes from Rome, amongst the Legions, the melodie seemed so pleasing to my eares, as if the musicke of the Syrens had inchaunted my sences. I ceased from warres, to thinke of loue, and from loue to doate on the cōceit of Terentia. The thoughts of thy excellency doubled such courage in my attempts, that I conquered the Parthians, yēlding vppe my charge to Lepidus, made him partaker of my honors, and fortunes, & came to Rome, onely to sée Terentia, whose sight was so beauteous, and so farre beyond the report of fame, that mine eyes surueying exquisitely thy perfections, and mine eares censuring of thy wit & vertues, both in league conspired to present the Idea of thy selfe to the contemplation of my hart, which

gree

grædily entertaining such rare beauties, hath euer since remained a poore distressed captiue. Sith then Terentia, thy Lentulus hath left his fortunes to follow fancie, & hath forsaken the warres to winne thy loues, holding thée more dere than country honour: shew thy selfe a Romane Lady, that striuing in mind to bee matchlesse, thou maist bee more prodigall in fauours, then I worthy in deserts, and yelde mée such mede for my loue, as Lentulus for his loyalty doth merite. I boast not of my parents, they are cittizens, and of the Senate with thy Father. I speake not of mine honors, the Capitol can witnes what showts passed from the Romans as victors: what teares from the Parthians as vanquished: both these passions growing from the fortunes of Lentulus. My reuenewes are such as satisfie my desires. But all these are externall fauours, which though I rehearse, yet I brag not of. But the constancie of my loue, and the loyaltie of my thoughts: these (Terentia) are gifts of the minde, deseruing no light esteéme, much lesse to be requited with ingratitude. Consider then (sweét goddesse) the sincerities of mine affections, weigh how Lentulus loues, and so vse him in loue, measure his fortunes by his fancyes. As thou art beautifull, so vse iustice, giue euerie one his due: Honors to the gods, reuerence to thy father, faith to thy friend, and loue to Lentulus, and if it please thée to grace me with the title of thy husband Lentulus: for I couet to like honestly, not to loue wantonly. I write (Terentia) as a souldier without eloquence, and as a louer, without flattery, if thou satisfie my loue with thy fauours, I doubt not to seale vp thy content with thy fathers and friends agreé. If either thou art tyed to former loues, or mislike of mine, I will close vp my sorrowes with silence. Howsoeuer it shall please thée to returne answere: liue with content, and die with honour.

Terentias new entertained souldier
Publius Cornelius Lentulus.

If (gentlemen) I haue not translated Lentulus letter *verbatim*, word for word, let me, in mine owne excuse yelde these reasons,

reasons, that neither the familiar phrase of the Romans, can brooke our harsh cadence of sentences, nor durst I attempt to weed Tullies eloquence to my rude and barbarous English, fearing, either to wrong so worthy an Orator, in displacing, or rather disgracing his phrase: or in too farre presuming, purchase your frowne, which I haue euer in all duty sought to auoide. But howsoeuer my translation seemes wretched, I haue kept his. And so to Lentulus, who hearing Tully read the epistle, both conceited the methode, and allowed of the manner: Onely carefull where to get a fit and conuenient messenger. Tully at last called to remembrance one Eutrapelus, an especiall friend of his, who frequented the house of Flaminius: by him did Lentulus send the Letter, and so liuing in hope of a happy answere, hee left Tully in his studie, and went to the Capitoll. Cicero no sooner was by himselfe, but calling to minde the discription of Terentia, set out with such excellency by Lentulus in his new learned poetry, and weighing how al Rome wondred at her beauties, began to feele certaine sparkes of loue kindled in his young desires, which made him blush at his owne thoughts, and smile that fancy should lie lurking amongst his librarie, to take him at discouert. But assoone as hee remembred, that Lentulus was in loue with her, the faith to his friend, was a cooling card to his affections, and hee quenched those sparkes at the first, least suffered, they may grow to a great flame: yet was hee mauger his head forced to say thus much.

Hast thou liued fortunate, and fauoured in Rome? hath honour raised thee from a meane cottage, to be a companion to the sonnes of Senators? Doe the Consuls make thee for thy learning one of the Pretextati? & wilt thou for the hope of foolish beautie, staine all thy fauours and fortunes with disgrace? May rather Tully, it will bee honour to wooe the daughter of so famous a Romane: but shame to thee, to take the repulse and be denied. Thinkest thou Terentia will looke so lowe? Will Eagles catch at Flies? Will the wonder of our time, the paragon of our age, allied to the noblest houses in Rome, make choice of so base and meane a person?

What

What hast thou to deserue her loue, any more then a little babling eloquence. Womens eares are not their touchstones, but their eyes, they see and make choice, not heare and fancie. A dram of honour weighes downe a pound of wit, and better it is to court with wealthy reuenewes, then with sweet lines, or fine coucht poems. Thou hast nothing left but a poore farme called Cumanum, whose rents quites not ỹ charges of thy studies. But suppose thou could'st win Terentia, suffice she is loued by Lentulus: and therfore from this day name her not in thy mouth, nor weare her in thy thoughts, least thou violate friendship, which thou oughtest to prize dearer then life. Thus Tully appeasing his passions went out of his studie, and willed Eutrapelus to deliuer the letter with secrecy: who being one of Tullies cheefe familiars, went with all spéed to the house of Flaminius, where finding the Lady Terentia sitting with Flauia & Cornelia at worke, hee being *homo facetus*, began merily to commend their huswifery, and after some iests broken betwixt the gentlewomen and him, hee craueth to speake with Terentia about certaine serious affaires that greatly impor̃ted her father: Wherupon she rising and going with Eutrapelus into her closet, he there deliuered vnto her Lentulus letter. Terentia abashed at the sight, blushed as halfe angry with Eutrapelus, that he made himselfe messenger of so vaine a matter: yet considering it came from so honourable a personage as Lentulus, shée vouchsafed it, and wisht Eutrapelus in the euening to come for an answere. Hee was no sooner departed, but Terentia vnripped the seales, and then red the contents, which beeing contrary to her resolution, shée determined to returne with a denial. But for that shée would make her friends priuie to her new loues passions, shee went smiling in, and shewed them the letter. Vpon poore Lentulus platnsong they all began to deskant. Cornelia praysing Terentias fortunes that was so entirely beloued of so honorable and braue a Gentleman, but Flauia hung the lip, and saying little, onely askt, what a louing answere shee would write. I know not how to reply quoth Terentia, he hath written so eloquently, and so cunningly. But quoth Flauia,

I durst paiyne my credit it was written by young Tully, that braue Orator. For I haue read some of his Epistles, and tis both his Methode, and his very phrase. That Tully, quoth Terentia whom I haue heard my Father & the Senators so highly commend for his witte, thinking him to exceede either Crassus, or Hortensius: and with that sitting downe, they began to enter into discourse of Tullies excellencies, concluding all, that he was as singular amongst the Romanes, as euer Demosthenes was amongst the Grecians. At last Terentia remembring her selfe, tooke leaue for a while of her two friends, and stealing into her closet, stepping to the standish, shee was about to write, but calling to mind ỹ discourse of Tullies perfections letting fall her pen, shee fell into a passion Cupid waiting to spy this Vestall aduantage, seeing her halfe at discouert, vnlooseth a bolt, headed with Desire, & feathered with Conceit, which pierching the tender breast of this young Damosell, he made her shrinke at the blow, and so breath out this complaint.

Hast thou (Terentia) bẽn wondred at in Rome, for dispising loue, and wilt thou now (doting girle) stumble on desire, shall fancie Eclips all thy former glories, shall Vesta lẽse a virgin, and Venus win a wanton? Wilt thou resemble the buds of an elder trẽe, which yong are sweet and wholesome, but blowne forth, are bitter and preiudiciall, thinke with thy selfe that Dianaes shrubs are more pleasant thẽ Cupids bowers, the one harbours chast thoughts, the other amorous fancies. Truth but Lucina is a goddesse, loue is diuine, and marriage honourable. Cedars are faire, but in yelding no fruit they purchase the lesse estéeme. To bée a virgin, is a glorious title, but to liue euer so, is to wrong nature in her fauours. Well, hast thou not then (Terentia) a noble Gentlemen of Rome, Lord Lentulus to bee thy husband, a man whose youth is filled with honours, and whose spring time flourisheth with dignities? hath he not triumpht ouer the Parthians in conquest, and bound fortune to his temples with wreaths of victorie? Is not his parentage one of the greatest families in Rome? Is hee not for beautie like the faire Grecks paramour: For wisedom like wise Vlisses,

that

that Cyrces could not inchant? For courage Hector, and of such reuenewes as may maintain thée with the most gorgeous dames of Italy? But the chiefe of his graces, is he not enamored of Terentia, and sues for her fauour? This I confesse, *Sed deteriora sequor.* Loue, Ah that folish passion which we tearme loue, allowes nothing excellent, but what it likes. It shadowed beggary in Crates, For Hypsycratea thought him rich, in that hee was vertuous: deformitie in Vulcan, for Venus would not beléeue he had a poult foote. Loue hath no lacke, and lesse reason: yet must I loue, and whom, Ah Tully, swéet Tully, from whose mouth flowes melody, more inchanting then the Syrens, one whose lips the Muses make a new Parnassus, in whose thoughts rest Platoes diuine spirites, and in whose head is contained the subtill wit of Aristotle. Is not hee as glorious in Rome for his eloquence, as thou for thy beauties? Doth not the Senatours wonder at his learning, as at thy perfection? Why should not then both our singularities be linked in the vnion of Loue? Why should not Terentia liue to Tully, and Tully to Terentia? Ah but he is base, the first of his kinne that tasted of honour. I but he is vertuous, and famous for his eloquence, graces that countervaile the meanenesse of his parents. I see loue hath reasons, being out of reason full to argue against reason, therfore without further *pro & contra*: in mine owne passions, I will loue Tully, and therfore thus to Lentulus: with that taking vp her pen, she wrote him this answere.

Terentia to Lentulus, health.

VVHen I read (Lord Lentulus) thy letters, and spied thy loues, I blusht at mine owne thoughts & sorrowed at thy fortunes. I search not the cause of thy loue, for it sufficeth me thou dost loue, if it lay in me, either to grant thy desire, or satisfie thy passions. Thy reasons are sufficient to moue, were it not, my vowe and my destinies direct my minde to contrarie thy affections. Thy honours (Lentulus) knockes at the closet of my heart, thy victories sue for their

Lords libertie, thy loyaltie enters pell mell with my thoughts, and giueth a sore assault to my setled resolution: all these put in their pleas to purchase fauour for young Lentulus. But Vesta, hard hearted Vesta, that makes her virgins pliant to her owne properties, commaundes that I shut mine eares against such alluring Syrens. I count my selfe greatly honoured with the loue of so worthy a Romane, and euer will Terentia couet to prooue as thankfull as hee affectionate, onely in loue pardon me, for that either I neuer meane to loue, or if I doe loue, my thoughts were fixed before Lentulus came from Parthia. Wade not there, where the ford hath no footing, barke not with the Wolues of Syria against the Moone, looke not to climbe to Olimpus, way not at impossibilities, but pacifie that with patience, which thou canst not obtaine, with beeing passionate. If thou suest to my father, and he graunt to conclude a mariage, yet shalt thou want a bride: For I will first die before I violate my resolution. Seeke not then by my preiudice to aime at thy owne content, which be it euery way, yet it shall neuer be in my loue: not that I hate Lentulus, but that my fortunes forbids me to loue Lentulus. If thou thinkest these denials bee but words of course, and perswadest thy selfe that women will be first coy, and then curteous as the marble, that drops of raine doe pierce. Thou shalt deepely deceiue thy selfe, and highly wrong me, but I challenge thy promise, that howsoeuer I frustrate thy expectation thou wilt bury thy conceite in silence. In which hope grieuing that thy showers came in Autumne, I wish quiet to thy thoughts, and an end to thy loues.

Thine euer but in loue,
Terentia.

TErentia hauing thus ended her letter and new begunne her loues, the one directed to Lentulus, ỹ other deuoted to Tully, she went straight to her two friends, Cornelia and Flauia, shewing them the contents of the letter, Cornelia said she was too seuere and stoicall, in sending such a peremp-

tory

torie answere to so braue a gentleman. Flauia ouercharged with ioy, praising the resolution of Terentia, wishing that all maides were of her minde, misliking that which shee most loued, thinking by retreating Terentia from the chace, to be mistresse of the game her selfe. Well, this letter at last was sealed, and deliuered to Eutrapilus, who tying him fast to Tullies lodging, found Lentulus and him in secret, and serious discourse, and all god wote was about Terentia. Lentulus hauing receiued the letter, entring with Tully into his study, read the contents. No sooner had hee viewed, and reviewed ouer her cruell determination, but in great extasie of minde, he cryed out (*Dulcior est mors quam Amor.*) And with that flinging out of his study, hee fell into bitter and extream sorrowes. Tully greeuing at his friends hard fortune, sought with plausible perswasions to appease his furious melancholly, wishing him whatsoeuer Terentia wrote. Still to thinke her a woman that would one while thrust out fancie with a finger, and straight entertaine loue as a friend: that either time or his constancie would wake her scope to the lure of his desires. Thus sought Tully to wrest him frō his passions, but in vaine, for her resolution confirmde with such effectuall and perswasiue determinations, so quatted the conceit of his former hope, that going passing melancholly to his bed, he fell into an extreame feuer, which aggrauated with the inward anguish of his minde, grew to bee so dangerous, that Asclapo the Phisition, excellent at that time for his facultie, iudged the disease to be mortall. The Senators hearing of Lentulus sickneſſe, sorrowed, as fearing Rome by death should bee depriued of such high ensuing hope: his friends flocked to his lodging to visit him, who noting the heate of the ague, and the passions of his minde, his sodaine starts, his gash lookes, and his abrupt answeres, iudged the extremitie of his sickneſſe had halfe brought him to a lunacie, all seeking by counsell to cure that which neither counsell nor medicine could mitigate. Frustrate of their exrectation, they wished his weale, and returned with griefe. Onely Tully, whose setled friendship no misfortune could remoue, still day and night, as a second Esculapius, waited vpon this

perplexed patient. But as the deapth of his passion pierced into the center of his heart, so the feuer increased, that generally Rome began to sorrow, to haue a warriour should be cut off in the very prime of his fortunes: insomuch that the report of his sickneſſe came to the eares of the thrée Ladies. Terentia made light account, as hauing her heart hardned with the loue of Cicero; but Flauia grew passing passionate, as being toucht at the quicke, with the weake disposition of Lentulus, wishing he might haue cure for his maladie, so it were not by the meanes of Terentia: shée frequented the temples, offred orisons, made bowes, and burnt incense to the Gods, that they would be fauourable to her louer Lentulus, coueting (if possible it might be) with the prejudice of her selfe to haue profited him: but in vaine, Terentia was resolute, and he was resolued as shée was dainty, so to die in dispaire. Flauia, if her modeſtie might haue permitted, would haue accompanied with other Ladies, gone to his lodging, but the rights of Vesta forbidding such familiar conuersing, she rather was restrained by force, then withheld by reason. But séeing she could by no meanes come to his sight, yet to manifeſt the sincerities of her loue, she sent him a letter to this effect.

Flauia to Lentulus, health.

IF I could (Lord Lentulus) pourtray with outward actions, the secrecie of my passions, or force as many teares from mine eyes, as there flie sighes from my heart: The Anotomy of my thoughts would discouer a disquiet mind, and the source of mine eyes a fountaine of bitter laments. But séeing that barrels, the fuller they bée, the lesse sound they yéeld: and where the current is déepeſt, there the water is most still: & the mind surcharged with extreames, hath leaſt vtterance of griefe, I leaue you to suppose of my sorrowes which I cannot manifeſt. But know (Lord Lentulus,) that when the report of your sickness came to the eares of your new entertained friends, Terentia sighed, as pitying with a common passion the ill of her countryman, but as one that

might

might not releeue, being intercepted with other loues. Cornelia chid, as holding your selfe in highest esteeme, alleaging reasons to her that admitted no reasons, but her owne loue which is without reason. Myselfe forrowed, as wishing desert should haue his due, where the honour of the man merits no lesse: we perswaded in vaine, & in seeking to bring Terentia to the bay, we endeuoured to quench fire with swords. Seeing then your thoughts leuel at a wrong marke, & that no sutes can diuert her frō her froward conceipt: in carelesse extreames, vse patiēce, wrestle with loue, being wronged by loue: yeeld not to the arrest of Cupids mace, but as hee is young, so hold him a boy. Cōsider, as Terentia is faire, so she is cruell, and as shee is full of fauour, so she is too too vnkind.

Flie not with Apollo after Daphnis: Diana hath more Nymphs as Chast, and yet not so coy: vse loue (my Lentulus) as children do puppies, which while they are pliant and gentle, they cherrish vp with crummes, but when they ware churlish, they beat away with strokes. Thinke Rome is the Mistresse of the world, and hath many faire dames, if not of such excellencie as Terentia, yet are they more courteous, and no lesse vertuous. The curious Herbalists measure not the plants by their colours, but by their properties: the Lapidaries make esteeme of their stones, not by their outward hue, but by their secret vertues. Vse then the ancient custom of Esculapius, let lillies wither on the stalke, and weare violets in thy hand, the one faire and vnsauory, the other black but of sweete verdure. Let these counsels (Lentulus) comfort thee, apply them not as outward plaisters, but as inward potions: which if they profit, none shall bee more glad than Flauia, who wisheth (if shee might in this hard extreame) to discouer the honor of her thoughts, and the resolution of a friend. If ought rests in me that may pleasure Lentulus, cōmand it of Flauia, as one knowing Lentulus desires are wholy honourable. Thus praying thou maist haue ease in thy passions, through end of thy loues, I will offer sacrifice for thy health, as she that feares her owne prejudice, without thy recouery.

Thine, Flauia of Rome.

No

No sooner had Flauia ended her letter, but shee sealed it, and sent it away, and with as much spéede as might bee, it was conueied to Lentulus, who reading the superscription, and perceiuing it came from a woman, supposing it was sent from Terentia, started vp in his bed, and rent open the seales: when he had read the contents, and saw it came from Flauia, noting the extreamity of her loue by the plaine discouery of her passions: he said to himselfe.

Vniust loue that settles thy thoughts in crossing with contraries. Some thou piercest with desire, other with disdaine: infusing sundry effects in diuers affects. I couet Terentia, and she is cruell, Flauia fauours thée, and thou art tyed to others loues. What rests in these extreames, but to curse fancie, that maketh such a confused Chaos of her follies. Oppose then reason against affection, & admit not of loues conclusions, vnlesse they bee approued principles. Thy thoughts are deuoted to Terentia, and shee onely vouchsafes thée the verdict of her eares. Thou art more honourable then shee, of richer reuenewes then her dowry can satisfie, hauing as many deserts, as she hath beauties: and yet coy dame as thée is, thée twits thée with Vesta, when God wote Venus is the goddesse that heareth her orisons. If thou hast this insight into her thoughts, why wrongest ý thy selfe with such careleslie passions: If shee bée so ramage, let her flie and séeke for a Nestle that may proue more gentle: Let her glory like Narcissus in her beauties: Loue can chastice if it be but with selfe loue. Vse no phisicke Lentulus, but the consideration of this frowardnes. Let the drugs of Apollo serue for others, not for thée. Thrust out fancie by force, and setting Terentia at light estéeme, make choice of Flauia: though she bee not so beautifull, yet she is second to her in graces, and farre beyond her in curtesies. Tie not thy selfe Lentulus so strictly to a womans face, beautie is but times flower, that as it is delicate, so it soone withereth: Like ý colors that Phydias drew in his pictures, which shewing most glorious to the eye, was yet blemisht with euery breath. Venus was faire and wanton: Helen the miracle of Greece, but alke Troy of her qualities. Ah but Terentia is as chast, as shee is beautifull.

So

So is Flauia too and far more louing. Her birth is of higher discent, her wealth more, her vertues no lesse: but her loue such as may challenge thy affection for debt. Ah but Lentulus, yet Terentia her excellencie is more, then can be shaken off with so slight reasons: and with that hee shrunke downe into his bed falling to his old complaints: yet did this Letter of Flauia somewhat comfort him, and he found it his best physicke. But leauing him in his bed, againe to Terentia, who felt the disquiet of her mind as restlesse. For the Senatours dayly repayring to her Fathers house, had no other table talke but the eloquence of Tully, some commending his wit, other his studie, some his vertues, but all his spectall gifts of nature, that they put oyle into the flame, and with these praises so set on fire Terentias fancie, as nothing tumbled in her thoughts but the excellencie of Cicero: being so impatient, as she sought by all meanes possible to come to his sight, and to feed her eye with that wherewith she had inchaunted her eares, finding no readie way to attaine the end of her desires, vntill loue, ẏ like Mercury is full of shifts and subtiltẏ, deuised this plot. Tully being borne in a little Village adioyning vnto Rome, called Arpinatum, vsed often to make his intercourse betweene the towne and the Citie for his pleasure: Which Terentia hauing learned out, thought the fittest meanes to haue a sight of her Cicero. So that one day, to take the ayre, accompanied with her two friends, Flauia and Cornelia, hauing but a page to attend vpon them, she walked abroad into the fields. Passing thus in merry chat towards Arpinatum, hauing some glaunces at ẏ sicknes of Lentulus, they had not walked aboue a mile before Flauia spied Tully comming frõ Arpinatũ to Rome, Assoone as she had discribed him, and for certaintie knew that it was he: ponder quoth she comes that odde man of Rome, that excellent Orator Marcus Tullius Cicero, so highly renowned through all our prouinces for his eloquence: now shall we heare from Lentulus, for they are the most familiar friends, and priuate companions in Rome, Terentia at this as one wakened out of a dreame, gaue a start, and casting vp her eye, espied the paramor of her thoughts, which droue

her into such an extasie, that surcharged with ouermuch ioy, she felt an vnacquaint trembling in her ioynts. Seeing thus perplexed, Tully drawing nie, and seeing Terentia accompanied with her friend Flauia, gaue thanks to opportunitie, that shee had so highly fauored his friend Lentulus, as that he might now pleade for his safety. Tully thus incountering those three Romane damosels after a courteous Salue which made Terentia blush, he began thus to bord them.

This place (sweet Romanes) so aptly agreeing to the persons, this valley resembling Idas, and Rome Troy, I cannot but bash with Paris at the sight of three such goddesses, whose deitie surpassed those, the shepheard iudicially furnished with his eye: humbly therefore saluting you as Dianaes darlings and beauties wonder, seeing so small a traine for such excellent personages, although my affayres bee serious and of importance, yet please it you vouchsafe of my service, I will attend on your walkes, and conduct you to Rome. Terentia feeding her eyes on the sweete of Tullies face, and swilling downe the nectar of his diuine eloquence, staining her cheeks with such a die, as did the faire Queene of Carthage courted by Æneas, she made him this answere.

How you make compare (Cicero) of this valley, with the plaines of Troy, as little skild in Geography, or read in Homers Iliads, I leaue without reply. For the Goddesses that Paris incountred, we are equall with thē in number, though far inferiour to them in beautie. For your service we accept it, and for your wages, you shall haue gracious lookes, and harty thankes. Seeing therefore wee are merrily minded, suppose your selfe to bee the Shepheard, which of vs all shall be your Venus? Not you Madame quoth Tully aboue all the rest: and why so quoth Terentia? because quoth Tullie, the least flie hath his spleene, the smallest Ant her gall, no haire so little but hath his shaddow, and no man so meane but he hath his enuy: Why then (quoth Terentia) I will discard you from the office of Paris, as a man partiall. But I pray thee (Cicero) wherin shold I offend thē, hauing neuer seene thee before. In this, quoth he, that Lentulus hath seene you: with that she blusht, and Flauia and Cornelia fell into a great

great laughter that Tully had so roughly crost her ouer the thumbes. Tully prosecuting his purpose went forward thus. Foreknow Madam, that Lentulus the richest Trophée that Fortune sets vp in the Theatre of honor, made shipwracke of his libertie for the report of your beautie, leauing the warres, and the great hope of his fortunes, to haue a sight of Terentia, you vnkind, not like Venus in curtesie, though in fauours, haue counterpoyzed his fancie with mislike, and for the hony of his amourous thoughts haue powred him downe heapes of bitter and displeasing gall. The cruelty of Cressida neuer amated so the hardy Troilus, as the frowne of Terentia hath pierst Lentulus, making so deepe a wound, as no phisicke can cure, only your sweet selfe, whose resolutions are so farre from the properties of your face, as it seemes the Gods wronged nature, in placing an adamant hart within a Christall couerture. The Ladies hearing Tully so sharp, bit the lip, and Terentia greeued: angry she could not bee, as one that was ouer the shoes in affection, but thus shee cut him off.

I cannot iudge (Cicero) by your sharpe and peremptorie inuectiues, vpon so small acquaintance, but you professe your selfe a Cinicke. If your philosophy be such, I will brooke the blowes as well as Alexander, and thinke nothing ill that is spoken from Diogenes. Howsoeuer, or whatsoeuer, Cinike, or Stoicke, I argue thus against Lentulus, that vowes made to Vesta are to be holden inuiolated, and resolutions to liue a virgin are not to be broken with marriage. Cornelia & Flauia hearing them thus farre in by the eares, walked a little aside, and left Tully to schoole Terentia: who maintained her arguments thus. Suppose (Tully) it were not chast thoughts but new loues that forced me to this refusall: haue not trées their springs, and women their fancies & affections? If his Autumne showers comming too late, cause not his crops to proue, whats that to me? Loue consisteth in wittie, the heart hath but one string, the heauen one Sunne, and the Iris one property, and women but one loue, and that I tell thee Tully, is placed on one that is as famous for his vertues, as Lentulus for his wealth and dignities. And what then shall

I giue, or he rightly challenge? Tully, although he conceiued in his thoughts, that Terentia yéelded great reason: yet hee would not giue ouer the chase so, but made this reply. Ah but Madam, haue an insight into the depth of his affections, how hee aimes not at your treasures, hoping to bee inriched by your great dowry. For Lentulus is of the welthiest family in Rome, but leuels at your vertues, the Syrens against whome he could not vse Vlisses policy. If affection be but a little past, if loue hath but drawne one line in your thoughts with his Pensil, wraste with fancie, blot out loues shadowes, and helpe Lentulus: who, if you remaine so cruell, shall bee no more Lentulus. If hee die for loue, how shall the stréetes swarme with statues of his constancie? If you bee knowne the chiefe Actor of the tragedie, how will the people murmure of your crueltie? Weigh this Madam, I speake as a familiar of Lentulus, and no enemy of Terentias honor. If hee bee a Romane that Terentia loues, let him either bee more honorable, more valiant, more affable, more excellent euery way then Lentulus, nay more louing then the poore gentleman, else discard him for a man insufficient to tast of Terentias beautie, or to be corriual with Lentulus in his loue. Terentia had yéelded at this fierce assault, had not loue laid an instance before her of her resolution. For the more Tully pleaded for his friend, the more was Terentia enamored: so that she made him this answere.

If I knew how to certifie Lentulus of this daies discourse, he should highly reward you for playing so well the Orator. But I maruell Cicero, that being young, and of such eloquence, we heare not of your loues: I feare you reach so hie, that you thinke no maide in Rome honourable enough for your paramour. Were I a man, and had Tullies grace, and his tongue, I would plead for my selfe, and vse one word for my friend, and two for my selfe. So Madam (quoth hee) should men account mee a faithlesse friend, and a flattering louer. But leauing these suppositions, Madam, how answer you my last reason: With loue (quoth she) and that is without reason for how might the Gentleman, to whome I finde my selfe affectionate, thinke himselfe wronged, if without

cause

cause I should be inconstant. Grant I my loue to ỳ meanest citizen, a Monarch shall not make conquest of my thoughts. Suppose sir it were your selfe, and that Terentia loued Tully, could you brooke another to braue you in your affection? I would Madam (quoth Tully) it were no supposition. And how then, quoth Terentia, if it were not? Then would I, (quoth he) become Esculapius to Lentulus, and sweare his disease should not be incurable, for I would coniure you, by the rites of Loue, by the sacred lawes of Venus, and by the affections that were imprinted in your thoughts, to bestow what you would impart vnto me, to my onely ioy Lord Lentulus. But women cannot make loue voluntary. Tush Madam, what cannot women doe for loue? Any thing quoth Terentia, but change loue, Therefore concealing the party that I loue, I will say and sweare Tully is my loue, and so say to Lentulus. With this Terentia blusht, and for verie griefe that Tully would not see into her thoughts the teares stood in her eyes: which Tully spying, it so prickt him to the heart, that it neuer after was rased out. To smoth therefore his rough method with a few fine filed phrases, he saluted the matter thus. It is (Madam) impossible to driue fire downeward, or to make heauie things to mount. Nature will not be wronged, nor loue drawne out by constraint, therefore I will leaue any more at this time to sue for Lentulus: hoping the consideration of his Martyrdome will at length make battery in the bulwarke of your breast, and whereas you will sweare Tully is your loue: you know (Madam) we haue in our twelue tables a law against periurie, but if you vouch to grace me with that title, in all dutie I will rest your euer bounden seruant. Why then seruant quoth she, let vs to yonder two Ladies, that for want of a companion are faine to make an amorous Knight of my page. Flauia seeing they were halfe agreed fearing Tully by his eloquence had perswaded Terentia, waxed pale, and incountered them thus. What newes, quoth shee, doth Lentulus winne or lose? Neither Madam, quoth Tully, but his case hangs still in suspence, the next court day I will end my Oration, and then the Iudge shall giue verdict.

As they were readie to haue gone forward in some pleasant prattle, they espied a horseman making toward them with the greatest spéed that might be. When he came within ken, Tully knewit to be Lentulus man, and before he had leasure to doe his Message, he demanded how his master did: Passing sicke sir, quoth hee, and hath sent that you bee with him presently. Tully who was touchd to the quick with this newes, put foote in the stirrope and mounted, yet as one forgetting himselfe, hee vsed these words. Pardon Ladies, if I passe manners and promise, in leaping vp with out leaue, and returning in such post without your company. It is for Lentulus, whom you all loue, and therefore I hope to rest blameleste. Now Madam Terentia, what shall I say to Lentulus? No more quoth she, then what I said to Tully: but how concludes Tully of his last premises? that, quoth hee, Terentia shall frame the argument, and so, with this darke Ænigma, he tooke his leaue of the Ladies: who after his departure, fell in talke of his perfection. Terentia so deepely praising the man, that her companions easily perceiued her loues, and smyled, that in forsaking a flower, shee light vpon a weede. Well, tracing still amongst the Medowes, they chanced into a valley most curiously decked with Floraes delicats, in which were such varietie of flowers, ý Nature seemed there to haue planted the storehouse of her prodigalitie. Adioyning to this vally, was a pleasant riuer: a groue, that gaue a grace to Cloris excellencie: delighted with the situation of this place, as they passed along, they met a shepheard, who doing reuerence to the dames: Terentia demaunded of this swaine, what the name of this pleasant place was. Madam (quoth he) we shepheards here call it, the vale of Loue. And why so, quoth Cornelia? Although Madam, quoth hee, my flocke hath no guide but my dogge, and now in the yeaning time the Wolues are very busie, yet, for that I sée you are Senators daughters, and withall passing courteous, I will shew the reason, and with that, leaning on his staffe, the Ladies sitting downe, began thus.

The

The Shepheards tale.

NOt many yéeres since, here in Arpinatū dwelt a shepheardesse called Phillis, so famous for her beautie, ỳ the Senators sonnes (which you call *Prætextati*) not onely came to sée their eyes with her fauours, but to satisfie their fancies with her loues: insomuch, that she was courted of many braue Romane gentlemen. But she that held loue at the staffes end, although her parents had left her rich, yet to banish Cupid with labor, she vouchsaft to be keéper of her own flocks, fearing the pride of her beautie (if shee should marry with one of Rome) would prooue an enimy to her humble thoughts: Liuing as chast as she was inrolled for a vestall, and quoted by Diana for one of her special followers, her excellencie was bruited through all Italie. But she, who feared to gaze at starres, for stumbling at stones, laid her thoughts low, and made choice of her company with country maids, and homely shepheards: yet was her attire rich, as diuerse that trauelled this way, tooke her rather for a Nymph, the follower of some goddesse, then a maide, and daughter of a poore swaine. While thus sheelined Ladie of the field, there was in the same village one Coridon, sonne to a simple shepheard, who was a mercenary man, kept shéepe for Vatinius the Senator ỳ hath a farme hard by. This Coridon was a man of perfect perfection, his haire hung in tresses, and his face was beautifull: wise hee was, and wanted but wealth, to make him the chiefe of all the shepheards, being of equall yéeres almost with Phillis, some two yéeres elder, hee fell extremely in loue with Phillis. Enamored was poore Coridō, and pensiue, by his flock sate ruminating of his passions, hee smothred his loue in silence, for that hee was the meanest of the swaines, and she mistris of vs all. He sate & sighed, & had none but eccho to pitty his plaints: his flocke left their foode to sée their masters sorrow: his pipe cease, the folds were no more partakers of his melody, and all these thoughts and cares for Phillis. She wily, and spying this wanton dally in the flame, looked narrowly into the perfection of the man whom she found worthy of loue, if his Parents had not béene too meane, and his wealth none at all, suppressing

this

this loue with lacke, and quenching the fire with the defects shee found in Coridon. But Cupid that could not brooke such exceptions, pitying the passions of the poore Shepheard, pulled forth an inuenomed boult, and pierst Phillis so deepe, that Coridon began to be master of her thoughts: now shee praisd his beautie, his behauiour, his wit, his gestures, so that nothing was amisse in Coridon. If he piped, Apollo was not like her Pan, if he sung, his voice was without compare, if he told tales, they were excellent, if hee put forth riddles, they were witty. Coridon was the shepheard that Phillis did fancie, & no flocks might graze by hers, but those of Coridon. This (Mistris) can loue doe, who though hee bee chaicely honoured in Rome, yet hee finds some idle time to dally amongst shepheards. Well, at last Coridon spied Phillis lookes, and got some hope of fauour: first hee courted with his eyes, and after natures law fell to prattle, with interchange of glaunces, after from lookes to words, which after their homely fashion was vere faithfully performed with sighes & teares, such perswasions as shepheards vse. Long had they not wooed, but Phillis was willing, and she was woonne, that after faith and troth, as soone as the shepheards could come together, a feast was made, wee kept holiday, and they were married: and because the Louers made this place the Concealer of their passions, the shepheards, for perpetuall memory of Phillis and Coridon, call this the vale of Loue, and in praise thereof, wee Country shepheards made an Ode, which if it please you to stay, I will rehearse. The Ladies pausing willing, thus the shepheard gan report.

The Sheepheards Ode.

WAlking in a valley greene,
Spred with *Flora* summers queene:
Where she heaping all her graces,
Niggard seemd in other places.
Spring it was, and heere did spring,
All that Nature forth can bring:

Groues

Groues of pleaſant trees there grow,
Which fruit and ſhadow could beſtow:
Thicke leaued boughes ſmall birds couer,
Till ſweet notes themſelues diſcouer:
Tunes for number ſeemd confounded,
Whilſt their mixture muſicke ſounded.
Greeing well, yet not agreed,
That one the other ſhould exceede.
A ſweete ſtreame here ſilent glides:
Whoſe cleare water no fiſh hides.
Slow it runnes, which well bewraid,
The pleaſant ſhore the current ſtaid:
In this ſtreame a rocke was planted,
Where no art nor nature wanted.
Each thing ſo did other grace,
As all places may giue place
Onely this the place of pleaſure,
Where is heaped natures treaſure.
Here mine eyes with wonder ſtaid,
Eyes amaſ'd, and mind afraid:
Rauiſht with what was beheld,
From departing were withheld.
Muſing then with ſound aduiſe,
On this earthly paradiſe:
Sitting by the riuer ſide,
Louely *Phillis* was deſcride:
Gold her haire, bright her eyen,
Like to *Phœbus* in his ſhine:
White her brow, her face was faire,
Amber breath perfumde the aire,
Roſe and Lilly both did ſeeke,
To ſhew their glories on her cheeke.
Loue did neſtle in her lookes,
Baiting there his ſharpeſt hookes.
Such a *Phillis* ne're was ſeene,
More beautiful then Loues Queene.
Doubt it was whoſe greater grace,
Phillis beautie, or the place.

Her coat was of ſcarlet red
All in pleates, a mantle ſpred,
Fringd with gold: a wreath of bowes,
To checke the Sun from her browes,
In her hand a ſhepheards hooke,
In her face *Dianes* looke.
Her ſheepe graſed on the plaines,
Shee had ſtolne from the ſwaines:
Vnder a coole ſilent ſhade,
By the ſtreames ſhe garlands made,
Thus ſat *Phillis* all alone,
Miſſ't ſhe was by *Coridon*:
Chiefeſt ſwaine of all the reſt,
Louely *Phillis* lik't him beſt.
His face was like *Phœbus* loue,
His necke white as Venus Doue:
A ruddy cheeke filled with ſmiles,
Such loue hath when he beguiles,
His lookes browne, his eyes were gray,
Like *Titan* in a Summer day.
A ruſſet Iacket, ſleeues red,
A blew bonnet on his head:
A cloake of gray fenc'd the raine,
Thus tyred was this louely ſwaine:
A ſhepheards hooke, his dog tide,
Bag and bottle by his ſide:
Such was *Paris*, ſhepheards ſay,
When with *Oenone* he did play:
From his flock ſtraid *Coridon*,
Spying *Phillis* all alone:
By the ſtreame he *Phillis* ſpide,
Brauer then was Floraes pride:
Downe the valley gan he tracke,
Stole behind his true-loues backe,
The Sunne ſhone and ſhaddow made,
Phillis roſe and was afraide.
When ſhe ſaw her louer there,
Sunne ſhe did, and left her feare,

Cupid that disdaine doth loth,
With desire strake them both.
The swaine did woe, she was nise,
Following fashion, nayde him twise:
Much a doe hee kist her then,
Maidens blush when they kisse men:
So did *Phillis* at that stowre,
Her face was like the rose flowre,
Last they greed, for loue would so,
Faith and troth they would no mo,
For shepheards euer held it sin,
To false the loue they liued in.
The swaine gaue a girdle red,
Sheeset garlands on his head.
Giftes were giuen, they kisse againe,
Both did smile, for both were faine:
Thus was loue mongst shepheards sold,
When fancie knew not what was gold:
They wooed, & vowed, & that they keepe,
And goe contented to their sheepe.

The end of the Shepheards Ode.

AS soone as the shepheard repeated his Ode, Terentia delighted with the description of the pastorall loue, for that it touched her passions, gaue him heartie thankes, and so the swaine toke his leaue and departed. Terentia and the rest hereupon growing into the effects of Loue that keepes no proportion of persons, wandred on, talking towards the groue. And for that the Sunne grew hote, and was risen to the highest Zenith of the heauens, seeking for shelter, they went into the groue, which was seated hard by the pleasant current: finding out there a place conuenient, these three Ladies sit them down vpon the grasse, where delighted with the melodie of the birdes, and the coolenes of the shade, they fell a sleepe. Then liued in Rome, Varinius the Senatour, which was one of the most wealthy in possession of any that had beene Consull in the Citie, fauoured

euery way by fortune, had hee not béene thwarted by one grécuous & dolefull misfortune. For this Vatinius amongst many children had his eldest sonne, as first in birth, so brauest in proportion, of such exquisite lineaments, touching the outward shape, as nature séemd to haue béene curious in her workmanship: but otherwise he was so sollily, and of so clownish capacity, that there was no hope of his future conceit: his name was after his father Vatinius. But for because, neither by the diligeuce of any master, nor the flattery of his friends, correction, or any other industrie, hée could be made capable of learning, or ciuilitie, vsing fashions and words from a harsh and grosse voyce, resembling rather a brute beast, then a reasonable creature, hee was in derision called of euery man, Fabius the Fole. Vatinius gréeuing that the Gods had offred him this wrong, for that the presence of Fabius was the continuall course of his sorrowes, hee commaunded that hee should goe to his Farme, and there liue amongst his shepheards: This was no little content to Fabius, as one that delighted more in the nature of Clownes, and Bondslaues, then in the courtly behauiour of libertines, and Gentlemen. Fabius thus béeing in the Country, applying himselfe to all principles of husbandrie, one day amongst the rest, walked forth, with a great bat on his neck, to ouer-sée his Fathers pastures: at last, for that the Sunne was hie and shone hote, hée went into the groue, then all ouer-clad with leaues, for it was farre spring, and séeing a place wherein at pleasure to rest himselfe, hée stumbled (by fortune) on the fount where Terentia lay a sleepe, who whé Fabius espied, being clad in a robe of Bisse, so thinne, as the whitenesse of her skin did appeare, hauing her two companyons by her side, hée began as one amazed to behold. Leaning therefore on his great Bat, without vttring one word, hée stood in great admiration what shée should be, as though hée had neuer séene so braue a creature before. Now entring into his rusticall, and blunt vnderstanding, (where neuer before could bee ingrauen any impression of honest ciuilitie,) a thought of fancie, which made him confesse, in his grosse and marciall spirits, that this

maide

maide was the fayrest thing that euer could bée censured by sight. In this humor hee beganne to deskant of her seuerall beauties, praising her haire to bee of gold, her forehead of Iuory, her lips Coyall, and aboue all, her two breasts, which then began to appeare like prettie tender buds, in such simple sort so distinguishing of her fauours, that from a grosse Clowne, hée became to bée a Iudge of Beautie: especially coueting to sée her eyes, which heauy sléepe had shut vp, determining often to haue waked her, to haue contented himselfe with their sights. But séeing her more faire then any creature that before he had séene, hee thought her to bee some Goddesse. Hauing thus farre knowledge, that things diuine should bee reuerenced more then humaine, and therefore durst not attempt to wake her, but (although shee had a sound and long sléepe) take such pleasure in contemplating her perfections, that hee would by no delay depart. At last, after a long space, Terentia awaked before any of the rest, lifting vp her drowsie eyes, shée saw before her, Fabius leaning vpon his staffe, whereof beeing halfe amazed, shee asked of him. Fabius, what seekest thou heere in this groue? Fabius, who as well by his countenance, as clemencie, and for the nobility of his house, as the riches of his Father, was generally knowne of all the Romanes, made no answere to Terentia, but seeing her eyes open, he began to lok stedfastly vpon them, feeling a pleasing content to issue from those Lampes which sparkle as the very flame of Loue: insomuch, that Terentia seeing him gaze so earnestly, fearing the sturdy clowne might offer her some violence, wakened vp her companions, and starting vp, saide, Fabius farewell. And although Terentia refused, as beeing surprised with great feare of his rusticall disposition: yet he would not forsake her till he had brought her to her Fathers house, where bluntly leauing the Lady, hee went home to his Fathers, saying, hee would not returne any more into the Country. Although it grecued his Father to haue his sorrow continually before his eyes, yet wondring what the occasion of this strange motion should meane, hee was content to let him remaine at home in the Citie. Loues arrowes thus piercing

into the heart of Fabius, whereinto neuer before any ciuill thought could enter, made such a metamorphosis of his minde, that not onely his father and friends, but all Rome began to wonder at his sudaine alteration: for he required to be apparelled as the sonne of a Senator, which his father with all diligence performed. Then frequenting the most courteous and honest yong Gentlemen of the Cittie, especially such as were amorous: hee (to the great astonishing of all) not onely learned his letters, but became very studious, and grew to haue deepe insight into Philosophy, to be skilfull in Musicke, to ride a Horse, and to be expert in all gentle and manlike actiuitie. to conclude, in short space, hee was one of the bravest yong men in Rome.

Here by the way (courteous Ladies and braue gentle women) what shall I say of the transformation of Fabius? only in my opinion this: That the high vertues of the heauens infused into his noble brest, were imprisoned by the enuious wrath of fortune within some narrow corner of his heart, whose bands went asunder by loue, as a Lord too mighty for fortune: Cupid the raiser vp of sleepy thoughts dispersed those vertues into euery part of his minde, obscured before with the eclipse of base thoughts. Let vs then thinke of loue, as of the most purest passion that is inserted into the hart of man. Well, leauing Fabius studious how to excell in all laudable vertues, againe to Tully who arriued in post hast to the lodging of Lentulus, and found him passing sicke, yet somwhat comforted at the sight of Cicero, as of him that he held most deere in the world. Tully seeing him ill and full of passions, durst not tell him that he had seene Terentia, least her froward answere should augment his misery, concealing therfore his Chat that he had with the Ladies, at last Lentulus shewd him a letter of Flauia, whereupon they fel to discourse of her beauties and vertues, how she was not much inferior to Terentia in fauour, but far beyond her in honours, discoursing so long from point to point, that after a volp of broken sighes tempered with some teares he fell a sleepe. Tully glad that he toke a nap, stole softly out of the chamber, and being by himselfe, calling to mind the words of Terentia,

began

began to enter into this combate with himselfe,

So plaine are the aspects of the foze appointing starres in some mens nativity, as they foꝛce foꝛtune mauger her owne variable nature to be constant. Amongst all that haue bene borne in ỹ poꝛe village of Arpinatum, thou maiest (Tully) say, that thy planets haue bene pleasing, and thy desires fauourable, who the sonne of a poꝛe farmour, art in hope to make thy house equall with the most in Rome. Measure but thy honour, and iudge of thy foꝛtunes: thy family base, yet art thou a companyon with Senatoꝛs, and men of graueſt account in the Cittie. Honour treades on thy heele, and dignitie daunceth attendance at thy lookes: but loue, Cicero, that deitie, that diuine essence, that sealeth by content in all estates, beholdeth at thy frowne, presents thée wreathes of mirtle, that thou mayst enter into Paphos without checke. Terentia the wonder of Rome, Natures Paragon, the refined beautie of the heauens, shee that seemeth to glaunce at the Pretextati: shee that makes no account of the miracle of our time, Lord Lentulus: she, Cicero commaunded by loue, yéelds her selfe captiue to the sonne of a poꝛe countrey villager in Arpinatum. Then Tully strew Venus temple with roses: say there is no fount but Alcidalion, no hill but Erecinus, no bird but the Doue, no god but Cupid. Lose not opportunitie, take her by the foꝛehead, let not slip occasion, foꝛ she glides away like a shadow: noꝛ Loue, foꝛ shee hanges at the heeles of Time. Now Terentia hath put the ỹon in the fire, strike then while it is hote, pay her downe poundes of loue foꝛ drams of fancie: foꝛ, in matching with the daughter of a Senatoꝛ, thinke, it presageth thou shalt be a Senatoꝛ, so shalt thou gaine, at one time honoꝛ, dignitie, wealth, and beauty: but with that, lose thy faith Tully, thy faith thou hast vowed to Lentulus, who shutteth vp his secrets in thy heart, and resteth his thoughts on thy bosome. Will thou preferr honoꝛ before thy friend, oꝛ wealth before conscience? Ah Tully, if thou be the man that Rome wondꝛeth at foꝛ thy eloquence, be also the man they that canonize foꝛ thy vertues. Beauty is but a dauns blaze, wealth is but a fickle fauour of Foꝛtune, dignitie is hainted by enuy: but friendshippe

that

that is the pretious treasure, that neither Time nor Fortune can violate. Why but Terentia will neuer loue Lentulus, then Tully hate thou euer Terentia. I am a man and subiect vnto loue, as well as Lentulus: So art thou a man, and being halfe to thy friend art vnworthy all loue. Abandon (Tully) these vaine imaginations, count Terentia foule, deformed, vicious, and what not: as long as one sparke of loue lyeth raked vp in the cinders of thy thoughts: as long as Lentulus loues her, hate her for thy selfe, and loue her for Lentulus. Setting downe his rest at this period, hée went into the chamber, to sée if Lentulus were awake, but finding him still fast a sléepe, he went towards the Capitoll, where he met with Flaminius ỹ father of Terentia, who demanded very heartely how Lentulus did. Cicero with a déepe sigh said, pausing sicke. Whereof (quoth Flaminius) growes the disease? I heard Asclapo iudged his sicknes to bee mortall. Tully thinking to set all on the dice, not respecting his owne soule, but his faith to his friend, beganne thus. Graue Senator, I néed not rehearse Lentulus birth, as béeing a Citizen, nor his reuenewes and possessions long knowne to euery man, nor his honours ended in victories: for the Parthians are sufficient euidence of his well discharged dignities and vallors. Lentulus graced in the prime of his youth with these fauors, hearing of the beautie of a Roman Lady, left the warres, and came to Rome, where courting his Mistresse, not with wanton Poems, but with tearmes of marriage, he found her froward, and his loue dasht in the prime. The impression of her beautie grauen with too déepe a character, was too fast rooted in his heart, to bee thrust out with denial: yet Lentulus to content her, playes like the Phenix, burnes in his owne perfumes, rather wishing to die, then to contrarie her resolution. This is the cause that first brought Lentulus to his bed, and this (ere long) will bring him to his graue. And who may it be (quoth Flaminius,) of what family, of what beautie, of what degrée, that can, or dare deny Lord Lentulus? Is he not mighty, and may commaund by force, what he cannot obtaine by intreatie: will not the souldiers at his beck rise in armes? Feare not the consuls themselues

selues so wrong Lentulus? Doth not all Rome hang their thoughts at his lokes? Ah miserable father that harbours such a daughter and stubborne huswife, that denies so braue a Romane, Infriendship Tully, tel me who it is? Cicero willing to put a spur to a free horse, and to lose his owne content to win his friends quiet, told him flatly it was his daughter Terentia: and for proofe, he shewed him the Letters that past betwixt Lentulus and her. Assone as her father had read the contents, as a man halfe mad he fell into furious and frantick tearmes, exclaiming against the head strong humour of foolish Terentia. After he had breathed out the heate of his choller, hee fell to bee somewhat appeased, and bad Tully home to Supper, promising all should sort according vnto Lentulus minde. With that departing from the Capitoll, Tully and hee went home to his house, where the Cooke being somewhat slacke, Flaminius hearing his daughter was al alone in a garden, he wished Tully to try her once againe, and to perswade her by all possible meanes to grant to the request of Lentulus. Vpon this Tully went into the garden, where finding Terentia sitting solitarie in an Arbor vp to the hard eares in a dumpe, hee wakened her out of her Muse thus. Vestas cheise paragon, and Venus new entertained darling, you Madam Terentia I meane that sit in a Muse: are you offring oblations to Diana for your chastity, or thanks to Cupid for your loues: or what are you thinking on when you thinke on nothing? Terentia turning her head and seeing Tully all alone, blusht more then Cynthia did when she wantond with her faire faced shepheard, yet welcoming her loue with a smile, she tooke him by the hand and made him this answere.

Your subtile salutation, concluding Vesta & Venus in one Dilemma, commands me answer, that I was doing my deuotion to both, offring prayers for my old thoughts, & thanks for my new loues: and scarce had I said, gramercie to the Goddesse, but you must come (Cicero) to make my thankes prodigious: for my thinking, when I thought of nothing, it was of mens loues which are lighter then the flame, and sooner faded then a flash of lightning: But I pray you say, what

wind hath driuen you into this coaste: Marry (Madam) the very sighes that flie from Lentulus breast grew to so great a storme, that I was blown hither to seeke shelter for the tempest. You haue nothing (quoth Terentia) but Lentulus in your mouth: I pray you say, how fares the Gentleman? Ill Madam (quoth Tully) euery way, for his diet is bad, in that his stomacke is naught, and his health is doubtfull, in that his thoughts are disquiet: and (Madam) it rests in you to saue so honorable a Gentleman, not onely from sickneſſe but from sorrow: Æneas was a straggling Troian, and exile periured and banisht euen from the ruines of Troy, yet Dido the famous Carthage Queene made him her paramour. Demophoon a pirate, a robber in Greece, cast vp as shipwracke on the shore, yet entertained by Phillis. Phao a Ferriman, a slaue: yet fauoured by Sapho. Lentulus, the hope of the Romanes, more beautifull then Æneas, more courageous then Demophoon, and more honorable then Phao, more louing then them all, reiected by Terentia, his neighbor and familiar. Think not Terentia but loue as he hath roses, so he hath nettles, as he hath perfumes, so he hath hemlocke, and holding fauor, he clasped reuenge, as ready to pierce, as to pacifie. If you procure Lentulus death, Cupid hath power to inforce your dispaire, and to cause your loue to be as fickle to you as you are froward to him. Then (Madam let mee bee the messenger of life, and from your sweet selfe carry such conserues to Lentulus, as may recouer his health, and increase your honours. This discourse of Tully did but set Terentias heart more on fire. For hearing the pleasant harmony of her Cicero, she liked of the musicke as of the Syrens melody, and so intangled her selfe with many new conceiued fancies, insomuch that forgetting whose daughter shee was, shee burst forth into these tearmes.

Did I not Cicero tell thee twixt Arpinatum & Rome, that loue hath but one Cel, wherin to place the Idæa of the party loued? wilt thou haue me like the Camelion to haue many colours, or like Helena, to entertaine many loues? I know Lentulus dignities are beyond my degree, that his honours are more then my fortunes, that his loue is great, and so I

hold

hold him the second in my most secret thought, though first he cannot be, and that he craues. Thou dost wring water out of the flint, fire forth of the dry sands, and immodestly from her that hath euer beene honoured for chastitie: so that by wastfelle perswasions for thy friend, I am forst to say thou art the friend that Terentia hath chosen amongst all the worthy Romans: Before I saw thee Tully, I loued thee, and now I haue settled my affection, and then wrongst mee with discourtesie: but either cease from intreating for Lentulus, or looke to see me worse then Lentulus. And with this blushing at her owne ouermuch loues, she powred forth such aboundance of teares, as well might bewray the sinceritie of her affections. Tully grieuing to see the goddesse of his thoughts in this passion, answered her mildly, thus. Blame mee not (Terentia) if I plead for Lentulus, seeing his sorrow, and entring into mine owne promise. Than friendship, is no sweeter to well, then how can I but labour ere I lose so rich a prize? But seeing Terentia hath vouchsafed of so meane a man as Tully, whose honours onely hangs in his studies: loue being the strictest league of amitie, and no such friendship, as is marriage: I vowe by the Romane Gods, euer to bee a dutifull seruant vnto Terentia: and with my loyaltie so to requite her fauours, as Rome shall more admire my affections, then they haue wondred at my eloquence: yet with this Prouiso (my sweet Terentia) that although I preferre thy fauours before mine owne life, yet if thou canst, striue to loue Lentulus, which if either the gods, loue, fortune or thy selfe can bring to passe, I will with mine owne preiudice, conquer mine owne thoughts to satisfie the content of Lentulus. As Terentia was ready to reply, one of her fathers seruants came to request Cicero to come to Supper, who taking his leaue of Terentia, went into her father Flaminius, who sitting down to Supper, passed away the time in ordinary talke. Their repast being taken, Flaminius calling Tully on the one side, demaunded what his daughters answere was: Peremptorily (quoth Tully) still to hold Lentulus in mislike. Then you shall heare (quoth her Father) what I will say, and so report to Lentulus; so calling for

Terentia, they three being together, he began thus.

I know not how Terentia, to insinuate my *Exordiũ*, whether friendly to perswade with a smile or fatherly to admonish with a frowne, thy follies are so great, and my care so tender. Rome hath hitherto admired thy vertues, and I haue praised thy obedience: thou hast bene counted honourable and chast, wise to eschew wantonnesse, but neuer cope to be thought disdaineful: and shall now all these graces end in disgrace? Then Terentia maiest thou repent hereafter, and I powre forth present sorrowes. I speake thus, for that I heare in this Citie what maketh me to grieue, & may force thée to blush. They say Terentia is beautifull, & proud, witty, and ouerweening, hauing cop disdaine crept into the place of curteous desire: thus men say that enuy thy follies, & grieue at Lentulus fortunes. Now daughter, thou séest the marke I aime at, & maist iudge of my shot by the leuell: Lentulus is fallen into a feuer, which Asclapo that famous Phisition of Patras censures to be mortall. Thy frowardnes was the efficient of the disease, & now ỳ deniest cure of the malady. Vnaduised girle, that neither weighest of thine own honors, nor his miseries. Lentulus requires Terentia in marriage: let vs make compare of the parties, and so examine the cause of thy denials. He is descended from the Lentuli & Æmilij two houses that euer haue bin the props of the Romane dignities, his honours are great, as Proconsull in his youth against the Parthians: his fortunes mighty, doubled with his conquests and victories: His reuenewes such as he may with Crassus maintaine Legions. If like Venus darling thou séekest to fed thine eye, his fauour is more then his that pleased Cynthia. If thou coueteſt a Souldier, Lentulus in Rome, is as Hector was in Troy. If a Courtier, who braues it so in Italy? To conclude, if Terentia couet to loue, there is none so fit to loue within the Romane Empire as Lentulus. Whereas Terentia is but ỳ daughter of a meane Senator, her dowrie cannot be much, for that her fathers wealth is not great: Beautifull she is, & so are many in Rome, who are of meaner parentage. Her glories are but fortunes pelfe, that flourish in the morning, & fade before night. What then can moue

Terentia

Terentia to oppose herselfe against Lentulus: vnlesse she fatally presageth her owne discredit, & the ruine of her fathers house: If then daughter ỹ art child to Flaminius, I charge thée by the strict Law of nature, which Philosophers call *Regius amor*, a kingly loue: Be a maid, by that holy fiers of Vesta: if beautifull, by Venus deitie: if a Romane, by thy countries loue ỹ loues Lentulus: which if thou refuse to performe, thy father shall curse thée, Vesta shal shut thée from her temples, Venus from her fauors, and thy country from inioying the swéete content of honour, and then make thée outcast of all her Romane virgins. More are my reasons to alleage, then thy reasons able to contrarie: but omitting all, and saying he is onely Lentulus: Daughter, what answere?

Terentia séeing her Father in such a choller, and that hée was induced vnto it by Ciceroes perswasions, in a fury began thus franticke. I deny not, but fathers challenge loue by nature, and obedience by dutie, and both those Sir (I hope) I haue euer performed: if not, I rest sorowfull, and craue pardon: but in loue parents haue no priuiledge: For the liking of the Father is no contract of the daughter. Venus conclusions grow not of parents promises, nor can affection be like the fire stroken forth of a flint: for loue is chosen by the eye, and confirmed by the heart, womens thoughts are not the spoiles of Mars, nor is the battell of fancie fought with the sword, but with the sences, and loues arrowes are appointed by fate and fortune. Weigh then Terentia, who hath not her loues in hand, but in her heart, and thereunto none can make breath, but such a one as the pleasing constellation of the starres haue appointed. I doe not deny the excellencie of Lentulus, as well in exterior shew of honours, wealth, dignities, & proportion, as in the interior vertues & perfections of the minde, and that he merits a Lady of farre more esteeme then Terentia: but I know not what contrarie aspect, either of the planets in our natiuities, or of loues in our thoughts, or of fortune in our resolution to like, hath crossed his desire, and my fancie, but of all the Romane Gentlemen, I cannot fancie my Lord Lentulus. Cressida confest Troylus was the better Knight, and yet the Greeke

held her louely in his tent. Sith then affection growes from desire, and desire is tyed to destiny, seeke not Sir to wring water out of the pumer, or to couple the Mouse and the Elephant at one stall, to vnite those loues that Venus in her Synode house hath expressly counterchekt. For to aunswere your obiection, Terentia cannot force her selfe to loue Lentulus. Shee thus concluded with a few teares, her Father departing from her with a frowne, told Tully that not reason was sufficient to induce his daughter to bee affectionate & therefore that he wished Lentulus to appease his passions, and to salue such impossibilities with patience: whereupon they, after change of salutations & common curtesies, parted with a friendly farewell. Tully at his home comming, reuealed vnto Lentulus the whole discourse, how Flaminius had searcht into the depth of Terentias thoughts, both with plausible persuasions, and inforced reasons, and could find no other conclusion, but that she could not loue Lentulus. Although this newes pierced the verie center of his heart, as mortally, as if hee had beene wounded with the sting of Aspes: yet cheering himselfe a little, hee sat vp, and in his owne mind hauing a bout or two with fancie, hee gaue her so deepe a reuse, that hee held affect at the swords point. But Tully, who betweene friendship and loue felt a furious combat, allured with the beauteous perfection of Terentia & forbidden that fauour by the entyre amitie hee had vowed vnto Lentulus, entred into so deepe a melancholly, that not able to master his passions, hee fell sicke, and kept his bed. Lentulus seeing his Tully thus distrest, grieued at his frends misfortune, and cheered vp himselfe, that he might semwhat comfort his Cicero, that newly was crossed with a distempered sickness. He sought by Phisicke to search out the nature of the disease: but Asclapo could not deeme the cause by the effects: he sought by intreaties to wrest out the occasion of so sudaine a sorrow, but in vaine. Tully was too secret and silent to make any shew of his loues, though hee bought such secresie with death. This grieued Lentulus, who feeling himselfe euery day to amend, perceiued that Cicero dayly feared worse and worse. Lingring thus in inward passions,

Terentia

Terentia that toke it discourteously at Tullies hand, that he should force her Father, to inforce her to loue Lentulus, seeing she had onely deuoted her selfe as his, howsoeuer fortune should oppose her selfe. To ease her mind of some choller that boyled in her secret thoughts, shée toke pen and inke, and wrote him a letter to this effect.

Terentia, to Marcus Tullius Cicero, health.

As my thoughts are secret and loues extreame, so is vnkindnes bitter, and the more vneasie borne. Thou playest (Tullie) with me, as do the Leopards with their keeper, that euer wrong them most, that giue them greatest store of fodder. Are these Venus fauors to pay homy with gall, to make rods of nettles, for garlands of Roses, to hate them most, that loue most? The ingratitude of Tully hath drawne Terentia into this choller. And if I write sharply, blame me not that am vsed so shrowdly. Before I euer saw thy face I allowed thy fauour, and onely hearing thy vertues with mine eare, I registred them vp deeply in my heart. Terentia hath béene courted of many, yet neuer made account of any: Sundry haue sought my lo[illegible] but they haue returned with losse, Lentulus the terrour of the Parthians, the honour of the Romanes, and thy friend hath long wooed, but what hath he won? onely Tully hath obtained, that which so many haue mist, and yet he deales with Terentia as crabbedly, as she vsed him courteously. Do louers for fishes proffer Scorpions? or doe they like the serpent, sting him that cherisheth him vp in his bosome? I séeke to fauour Tully, and he importunate, sues for fauor for Lentulus. Art thou so déepe a Philosopher, as to déeme friendship aboue marriage, or faith aboue fancie, or thy Terentia lesse then thy Lentulus? If it be so, take héed that Terentia, too much wronged, scornes not both thée and Lentulus. Womens thoughts consists oft in extremes, and they that loue most, if abused, hate most deadly: feare this, and beware of my frowne: as yet there is but one wrinckle in my browe, but if it once prooue full of angry forrowes,

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it will be too late to take hold of occasion behind: Thou art forewarnd, be before armd, and so farewell.

Thy Terentia, if thou wrong
not Terentia.

After shée had written this Letter, shée cauld it to bée conueied by Eutrapilus to Tully, who reading the contents, found not a salue to cure his malady, but that Terentia rubbed the scar afresh, by shaking him vp so sharply, yet coueting rather to die with an honorable mind to Lentulus, then with a discredit to enioy beautifull Terentia, he laid his head on his pillow, and with many sighes bewaide the depth of his sorrowes. Hauing laide his letter at his beds head, ouercharged with many cares, poore Tully fell aslèepe, and so sodainly, that Lentulus, by the help of Eutrapilus got to haue a sight of his Letter. Assone as the Gentleman saw how déeply Terentia was affected to his friend, and perceiued by the circumstances, that he chose rather to die, then to falsifie his faith, such a secret loue towards Tully so pierced the closet of his honourable thoughts, that he fell to conceipt but meanly of Terentia, and to with that his friend Cicero might both recouer his health & his loue. Now began that fancie of Lentulus to Freéze, that erst was so great a flame, and he that like the Salamander delighted to liue in the fire, began to feare to *accedere ad ignem*, least he should *Calescere plus quàm satis*. Now he called to mind the resolution of Terentia, tempered with frowardnesse, and with this hée did proportion the vertues of Flauia, mixed with courtesie, finding the fauour of the one, answerable to the beautie of the other, then the faith of his friend, his sicknes and extreame sorrowes. These weighed with déepe consideration, he vowed to séeke by all meanes how to win Terentia wholy for his friend Cicero. In this humor he conueied this Letter vnder his beds head, and rested silent till occasion might offer him opportunitie to discouer the perfection of his amitie. Thus grew Lentulus at one time from his sicknes & his loue, walking abroad, and visiting Flaminius, who intertained him in

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all sumptuous maner. But Lentulus seeing the three Ladies, made no shew to Terentia, nor scarce glanced a looke vpon her beautie, but onely courted the Ladie Flauia, whom he found so agreeable and pliant to his suites, that Terentia and Cornelia might easily see how deepely they were linked in the league of affection. Leauing Tully thus sicke on his bed, & Lentulus in sweet content with Flauia, Againe to our new transformed Fabius, who in this time proued one of the braueſt gentlemen in Rome, and finding a reſtleſſe paſſion in his minde for the beautie of Terentia, as hauing continually before his eyes the Idæa of her perſon, ſeeing by her meanes hee was metamorphoſed and brought to this perfection, making the force of his loue prime to his father Varinius, hee was not onely praiſed for his good choice, but willed to go forward in the obtaining of his affections. Whereupon, not willing to make a long haruеſt of a little crop, to preuent (as he thought) that none ſhould cut the graſſe from vnder his feete, hee went to Terentias Father, and bluntly craued his daughter in marriage. He knowing him to be of honourable parentage, and of rich reuenewes, ſeeing ſhee would not condiſcend vnto Lentulus, gaue him his franke good will, if he could creepe into his daughters fauour, who taking the aduantage of the time, went to find out Terentia who as then was very melancholly ſitting with Flauia and Cornelia, talking of ỹ ſickneſs of Tully. As they were thus in chat, came in Fabius, who they ſtraight knew, & wondred at his ſtrang alteration: he, to ſhew hee could as well court it as the braueſt young gentleman in Rome, beganne thus curteouſly to ſalute the Ladies. Marueil not (Ladies) if a country ſwaine preſume to attempt ỹ preſence of ſuch rare excellencies, ſeeing Oenones ſhepheard durſt with his eye ſuruey the beautie of diuine goddeſſes, and they to ſhew they were as gracious and full of fauours, gaue him the greateſt minion that was counted the ſweeteſt paragon of the world. Earthly creatures you bee, faire Romans, but heauenly faces, whoſe lookes lighten diuine influence into ỹ thoughts of ſuch as dare to contemplate your perfections. I ſpeake this as being the man, that from the cart, liue in the court thus

metamorphosed by your supernaturall beauties. For which fauour I am come in duty, to rest a bounden votarie to your sweet selues. Terentia was so pensiue for Tullies passions, that shee would make no answere. But Cornelia, whom already Cupid had set on fire with Fabius feature, shee returned him this reply.

I remember Fabius, that sitting in the groue by Arpinatum, a gentle swaine much like your selfe in proportion, though not in properties, seeing we were slenderly guarded with a Page, conducted vs home to Rome with his friendly company: if it be your selfe, had wee as braue a Lady as Helena was, & were she in our power to bestow, we would make you master and sole possessor of her beauties, so to reward your courtesie. Fabius seeing ỳ marke so faire, thought not to lose his shote, but aimed his leuel thus.

And for that cause (Ladies) is Fabius come, that his méd may not want his merite, glad that Venus dewes downe such fauours, and opportunitie such showers of good fortunes to finde you all here in so fit a time. For know (honourable Romanes) that for my grosse and rude nature, hating the ciuill behauiour of the Cittie, I was surnamed Fabius: in which obscure life, I liued hauing my senses eclipsed with folly, till the gods grudging at natures spight, sent you three to be ministers of happines. For comming into the groue where you lay all asléepe, casting mine eye on the beautie of Terentia, such a déepe impression was figured in my minde, that I felt an vnacquainted motion, with a milde reuerence to thinke wel of her perfection: surueying her singular beauties, I fell so farre in loue with her excellencie, that from the country I came to the Cittie, and how since by her gracious sight I haue metamorphosed my selfe, your own eares, and the wonder of Rome is best able to witnesse. Then Ladies, I count the renewing of my life to come from the feature of Terentia, and that she, not as Diana, changed me frõ a man to bee a beast, but contrary, full of fauour, hath reduced mee from a sensuall beast, to a perfect reasonable man. How déeply then I ought to be vowed to her, whose sight is the welspring of my happines, let the greatnes of my benefit make

manifest:

manifest: in so much, as feeding my thoughts with the contemplation of Terentias beautie, I haue bin thus transformed, but withall, so surprised with her loue, that as I haue gaind a second essence by her sweete selfe, so I haue lost my selfe within the Labirinth of her lookes, that I remaine her captiue while it pleaseth her to grant me libertie. Be then (braue Roman dames) impartiall doomers of my sute, whether my deserts craue not loue, that thus haue bēn changed for her loue. My parents are Senatours, my reuenewes inferiour to none: old Vatinius glad of my choice, and Terentias father thrice happy if his daughter might like of Vatinius. Now rests it onely in Terentias power to make me blessed, or infortunate. At this discourse of Fabius, the Ladies were astonished, and Terentia galled to the quicke with this demaunde held her tongue, till Cornelia and Flauia, looking earnestly vpon her, asked her what answere she made to Fabius. Such quoth she as I returned to Lentulus: for know sir, if either the honor of a souldier, the dignity of a Romane, the reuenewes of a Senators sonne, or the deepe impression of fancie might haue drawne Terentia, to loue, I had bēn ere this the wife & paramour of Lentulus. But not the courage of Hector that won Andromache, nor the wisdome of Vlisses that intangled Calipso, nor the beauty of Priamus son that drew Greece in armes to Troy: these perfections if cōbined in one man should not moue Terentia to listen to the alurements of Venus: not ỳ I make light estēme of Lentulus, or that I holde small account of Fabius, as two chiefe mirrors of our Romane Gentlemen: but that either my vowes are resolued to Vesta, or if Cupid hath taken mee by the heele, it was before Lentulus came from Parthia, or you frō Arpinatum: so that to conclude, howsoeuer it is, I cannot become affectionate to Fabius. At this reply Fabius stood so amazed, as if he had bēn an vnwel-come guest at the feast of Perseus, which Cornelia noting, deeply in loue with Fabius, she told him thus. Nor may you (Fabius) think much at this repulse, sith Lentulus and you are in one predicament, now both become gainers in libertie, that haue bēn e losers in loue: and either get the willow garland and so mourne for

your Ladies frowne, or seeke a Mistresse that may shew you more fauour: for as for Terentia shee hath chosen, and none must please her but Orators. If there bee (Fabius) but one sun that is thought the beautie of heauen, yet there bee planets, that though not in shine, yet in influence, are as vertuous. What? there bee Ladies (I meane) of such course dye as my selfe and Flauia, that when Terentia is once married looke for husbands. Fabius hearing Cornelia thus pleasant, noted this quip, ỳ none must please her but Orators, which made Terentia blush for anger, and Fabius to make this answere: I know no Orators in Rome quoth he, whose peres are answerable to Terentias thoughts but onely Marcus Tullius Cicero, & if it be he, I sweare by the stitch that gaue him his surname, Terentia shall be Mistresse of a godly Cottage in Arpinatum. Terentia hearing Fabius to giue Tully the frumpe, answered thus.

The more his fortune, if it be he whose vertues hath made him Master of his owne desires: for his lands in Arpinatum, as they be little, yet shall his lacke be counteruailed with his loues: and if hee hath not one to inrich him with dowry, yet I may perhaps content him with beautie. And therfore Fabius, to take away all suppositions, it is Tully, and none but Tully that shall enioy Terentia. And quoth Fabius in great choler, nor Tully nor none besides Tully, but Fabius shall enioy Terentia. Whereupon departing without taking his farewell, going vnto her father, & discoursing vnto him, that Tully was ỳ man that his daughter had chosen for her husband, swearing that his sword, ere it were long should ende their loues. Although Flaminius were greeued, yet he sought to pacifie Fabius, but in vaine: for hee flung out of the doores in a rage, and went to Miloes house to seeke Tully. Where breathing out many dispightfull threats against the Orator, it came at last to Lentulus eare. Who now to make manifest the deepe affection hee bare to Cicero, trouping himselfe with a crue of the *Pretextati*, and theese Romane Gentlemen that had beene souldiers, and trained vp with him in the warres, hee went to seeke out Fabius and found him with certaine his companyons about the Capital. Lentulus

tulus not brooking the braue of any, as carrying the heart of a Conquerer, singled out Fabius, and after some woordes, they fell to blowes: But Fabius part were the weaker, so that many were wounded, and some slaine. Upon this, the next day, parts were taken, the people began to mutiny, and to fall to intestine and ciuill iarres: that as in time of Sylla and Marius, so the stréetes were filled with armed Souldiers. The Senators séeing what bloudy stratagems would insue of this strife, if it were not pacified, sent for the Consuls, and charged them to raise vp some of the Legions, and bring Lentulus, Tully, and Fabius the next day to the Senate house with Terentia, and her Father. They obeying their commaund, put this charge in execution, and so qualifying somewhat the fury of the people, brought these three woers with Terentia, before the whole state of Rome. Where béeing arriued, Tully fearefull of nature, and sicke, yet somewhat strengthened with the sight of his Mistrisse, being glad Lentulus was his friend in his loue, after due reuerence, began thus.

Tullies Oration to the Senate.

COnscript Fathers, and graue Senators of Rome, I was borne in Arpinatum, of base parentage, the first of the Ciceroes that euer pleaded in Rostris, or bare title in the citie. If then aduanced by your fauors to these fortunes, I should aspire without proportion to climbe beyond my degrée, let mée bee the first and last, whose presumption shall grow to this preiudice. The temple of Ianus in Rome hath her gates shut, the stréetes are full of armed men, the stones of the Capitall blusheth at the bloud of Romans shedde against her walles: and all this mutinie (my mine aduersaries) growes from Tully. Not that Tully was then out of his bed, but that men of poore families, lifted vp to honour, are sowest bitten with enuy. I appeale (graue Senatours) for my life to your owne censures, if euer I haue not béene more carefull to profit my Country, then desirous of preferment for my labours. But what then say the people is cause

of such broyles? Terentia the daughter of Flaminius, the firebrand that set Troy to cinders. Beautie is like to bring Rome to confusion: For the greatest houses and families are deuided, the Lentuli and Vatinij and this for Terentia, Let the cause be examined before the Senators, and as they heare so let thē dome: Lentulus chosen by the Senate, was sent Captaine ouer many Legions against the Parthians, where he tyed fortune to his thoughts, by his great victories and conquests set vp Trophees of Romane chiualrie, Returning with glory to Rome, hauing set in his place Lepidus, hée was enamoured, not onely of the beautie, but vertues of Terentia, the fame of whose excellencie was spred amongst the Parthians. Coueting to match with so honorable a Lady, he courted her, but in vaine: not that she disdained Lentulus, but that shee had fired her fancie before shee saw Lentulus: and ỹ platforme of loue is able to receiue but one impression. If honors, if conquest, if parentage, if reuenews, if courage, if gods of fortune, body, or mind, might haue won Terentia, all this was vnited in young Lentulus. But loue that liketh without exceptions, had ouerhard her heart with such former fancies, as the passionate sute of Lentulus could haue no entrance. His thoughts were extreame, and the disquiet of his mind brought a disease to his body. But when he knew that Terentia loued his friend, he appeased his passions, and rested content with his fortunes. The vnconstant goddesse, whose smiles are ouershaddowed with frownes, not content honour should spring vp without enuy, sends Terentia to walke abroad towards Arpinatum, where then Fabius liued, as famous for his rusticke and vncouth life, as now he is wondred at for his braue and courtly behauiour. Spying Terentia, he was, as Lentulus, snared in her beautie, that the Romans, to report a miracle said, loue made him of a clowne a braue and resolute gentleman. The excellencie of Terentia hauing new polished nature in Fabius, hée sues for her fauour, but her thoughts that were forepointed with other passions, intreates him to bridle affection, and to make a conquest of himselfe by enduring the force of fancie, seeing her religion was directed to loue none but one,

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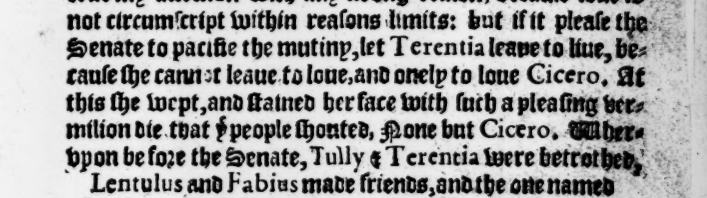
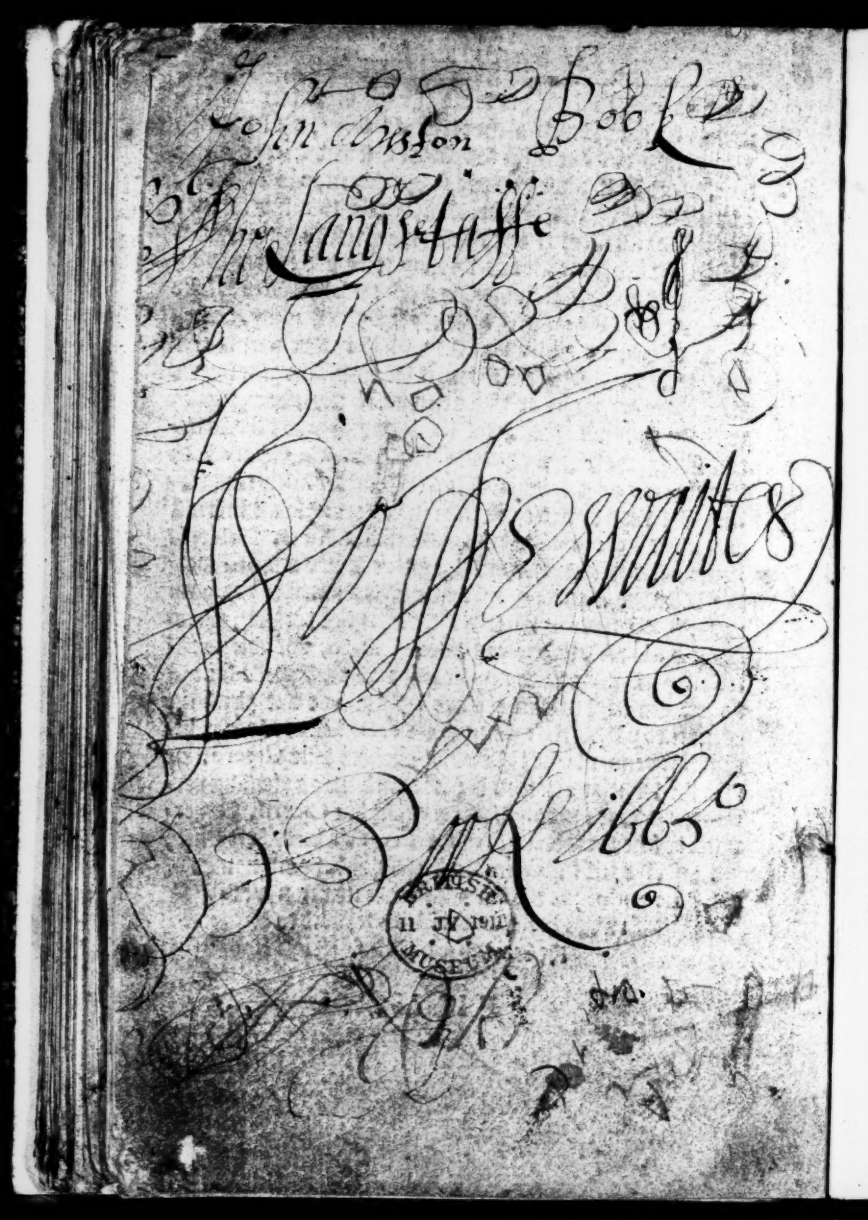
and that was Tully. This word (graue Senators and Romans) sounding basely in the eares of Fabius, caused him to take armes and Lentulus to defend his friend Cicero, as for him, before he had lost his loue, so hee meant to lose his life, and withstood him in the face. Thus grew this mutiny, not against beautie, for it is a chiefe god of it selfe, nor against Tully, for hee is meane and vnworthy to bee reuenged by armes, but against Terentia, because she vouchsafed to loue Tully. This (Romanes) is the cause of this mutiny, to suppresse which, let Tully die, for hee had rather pacifie this strife by death, then see the meanest Roman fall on the sword. The common people at this beganne to murmure, pleased with the plausible Oration of Tully, which one of the Senators seeing, stood vppe and saide thus. Terentia, Cicero hath shewed reasons why thou shouldest loue Lentulus and Fabius, but what reason canst thou misser to loue so mean a mã as Tully? Terentia blushing made this answere. Before so honourable an audience, as these graue Senators, and worthy Romane Citizens, womens reasons would seeme no reasons, especially in loue, which is without reason, therefore I onely yéeld this reason I loue Cicero, not able to ratifie my affection with any strong reason, because loue is not circumscript within reasons limits: but if it please the Senate to pacifie the mutiny, let Terentia leaue to liue, because she cannot leaue to loue, and onely to loue Cicero. At this she wept, and stained her face with such a pleasing vermilion die, that ỳ people shouted, None but Cicero. Whereupon before the Senate, Tully & Terentia were betrothed, Lentulus and Fabius made friends, and the one named Lentulus, as the Annales made mention, married to Flauia, and Fabius wedded to the worthy Cornelia.

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